

8BIT

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALL 8-BIT COMPUTER USERS

ISSUE 11

Apr/May 1996

Harrowden, 39 High Street, Sutton-in-the-Isle, ELY, Cambs. CB6 2RA

Editor: Brian Watson
Tel: 01353 777006

E-mail: Brian@spheroid.demon.co.uk
Fax: 01353 777471 (NB: new number)

EDITOR'S COLUMN - ISSUE 11

Such is my shame at the lateness of this issue that I have left out all the April Fools, Poissons d'Avril, etc.

So you *won't* read in this issue about the announcement in the Queen's Birthday Honour's list later this month that Alan Sugar is to be ennobled as Lord Sugar of Tottenham, for services to industry.

The story about how the new Amstrad PCW16 will not recognise 3½" discs with red cases will also have to wait for another day, another year.

Nor will you read here about how the majority of the last-ever batch of 3" discs to be made went to fishing boats operating out of the north of Scotland for use in their navigation equipment. (Actually that one's true, but I wish I had made it up).

Yes they're finally on the way out, unless someone with an eye for a good business opportunity steps in and orders another 30-50,000.

"Mr Sugar, there's a Mr Watson in reception, asking to see you about that 3" discs matter."

"Tell him if he supports Chelsea he can ..."

"He says he heard that and he has been a lifelong Spurs fan."

"Send him up, and get my chequebook."

Brian Watson

INDEX FOR THIS ISSUE

=====

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Page 1 | Editorial & News. This Index |
| Page 2 | The Cook Report |
| Page 3 | More Cook Report |
| Page 5 | Even more Cook Report |
| Page 7 | The Competition Page |
| Page 8 | Recent Reading Received |
| Page 9 | Recent Reading Roundup Part 2 |
| Page 10 | Letter from the DTI |
| Page 11 | Radiation Emissions and You |
| Page 12 | Help fo PCW Network users |
| Page 14 | The GEOS Feature continued |
| Page 15 | And more of the same |
| Page 17 | Very Attractive Shorts |
| Adspage A | Spectrum/Commodore Adverts |
| Adspage B | CPC Adverts start |
| Adspage D | PCW Adverts start |
| Adspage E | Miscellaneous Adverts start |
| Adspage H | Salve and Valete (it's Latin) |
| Page 28 | Legal Stuff & Repairs Project |

THE BIG FEATURE - WHAT A FUTURE by Angela Cook

Future Publishing used to publish several magazines on 8-bit computers, of which only PCW Plus is still being published. I went to Bath, where they surreptitiously keep their offices, for a week's work experience. I did this for several reasons;

- 1) I want to write for a living, I don't care what it is; a review for PC Guide or a dirty story for Playboy ... get me into print!
- 2) I wanted to meet Simon Forrester (Amstrad Action, Commodore Format and ST Format, now running around shouting "I'm out of work" between freelancing on PCW Plus and others in the Future stable), Karen Levell (AA, CF and now STF), Dave Golder (AA and CF too, now SFX), and other people I have spoken to and heard about.
- 3) I used to work from home for Amstrad Action, and wanted to see more how a magazine is produced, and gain experience in this area.

So, for a whole week I would work at one of the many Future buildings in Bath. I would be sorting out advertisers, rearranging deadlines, hiring and firing, managing magazines - just a little book review? The proverbial pie was extremely high in the even more proverbial sky.

For the first two days I was there, I read their magazines almost cover to cover, and two Star Trek books Karen was reviewing (I begged her to let me do just one of them to give her more time, but she steadfastly refused). My biggest job was making the tea and coffee. One problem was that Simon (they actually call him "Hairy" up there) wasn't supposed to be there after Monday, that being CF's deadline. But as this was Future Publishing (and Simon Forrester)

Anyhow, on Wednesday I got to use Simon's Apple Macintosh. That is, after I found it under the junk and rubbish. When I first entered their office (ahem) in one corner I could see a mound of paper, magazines, boxes, sweet wrappers, cans, drink cartons and hair, so determined that this was Simon's work area.

I was going to blow my nose on a tissue (Do we really want to hear this? - BW) (just wait, and everything will become clear - AC) (including the sinuses, no doubt - BW). Anyhow, I decided to give Simon's monitor a quick wipe; it would have taken a pneumatic drill to get through all the layers of dirt. After I had done that, I wasn't prepared to use the tissue on a dead hedgehog, let alone my nose.

Wednesday and Thursday I went surfing, at least electronically. I played around on the Futuernet and Internet, to see "just how crap it is", in Simon's words. I also used QuarkXpress, the package which they lay the magazines out on. It is a well balanced program between word processor and desk top publisher. Macs are very different to CPC's, C64's, PC's - anything I have ever used before - but I got used to them after a few hours. On the Thursday, Nick Peers (a guy from STF) was showing me what "subbing" was (more on that later), and I suggested turning the colour box off, to give him more room on screen. He asked me how to do it. I've been there two days, he's been there twelve months, why shouldn't I show him how to use Future's main publishing package?

Now for a brief talk through what I have learned over the last year or so about magazine production. Let's assume that I have been commissioned to write an article, a round up of the top fifty games for 'Your Favourite Machine' of all time. Theoretically, although it doesn't always work in practice, I would get a commission sent through, or it would be done verbally whilst speaking to the Editor or whoever. On it would state the title of the article (which invariably changes), the word count, and deadline. After that would be what is to be included in the article, with

THE BIG FEATURE - WHAT A FUTURE -continued

due note given to the box-outs and technical/financial details needed.

We will dispense with the research and actual writing of the article on my part (although that is a fair-sized chunk), and will move swiftly on to when the disc with my article lands on someone's desk. Who's desk I don't know. Perhaps the staff writer or dogsbody will load the file into QuarkXpress, and check it through. Now, because I was there at deadline, the end of the road, I didn't get to see any of this, so I am wibbling* it a bit. They will probably do some general checks on the soundness of the article, spelling, grammar and the like. From then, I guess it is laid out on a "grid". A grid is an empty page, with the columns and headings, even the page numbers, sorted out, ready for the gracious flow of text.

It then gets transferred to the Art Editor's Mac, along with relevant information to box-outs (the boxes on page that are slightly separate to the main body of text), graphics and design. The Art Ed struts his stuff, and sends the finished thing back to the Production Editor. The Production Editor, or Deputy Editor, probably Editor on smaller magazines (such as CF in it's final issues), will then try to fit the text in to the space left by the Art Ed. This is called "subbing".

Here is where wibbling comes into effect, they either have to get more text to fill the page, or compress it into less. Remind me to never overwrite for a magazine again, I know what agony these people go through when trying to sub. I thought Nick was going to garotte himself on a string of Simon's used sweet wrappers.

Once all this is done, the Editor checks over it (usually), for any final mistakes, and it is sent back to the Art bod, who gets it kicked off to the lino. The lino scanners separate the page into four see-through plastic films, one for each CMYK colour. They are Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and something else. These come back, and you can see roughly what your page looks like, although it is not strictly in colour. Once that is fine, and a check is made that the colours have been "separated" (into the CMYK partitions), a "chroming" is done. When you receive the chrome of your page, it is in full colour on a hard white board, and looks very impressive.

It is possible to change any part of the page layout and text at either the lino or chroming stage, however, it costs more money to have them done again. Talking of money, it costs around £400 for a front cover design. AA freelancers were paid £50 a page plus expenses, and I'm not telling about other people because I might get in more trouble than I already am. A quarter-page advertisement in AA was around £150 colour, but in some of the PC magazines, can be up to £4000 for a double-page colour spread. Pretty hefty, considering some of them have 16 pages or more.

At each stage, the article would be printed to get a rough idea of layout (there is no colour), and text. Each person would write on their name the version number (For example, "Nick - v6"), so you knew where you were up to, and who cocked it up.

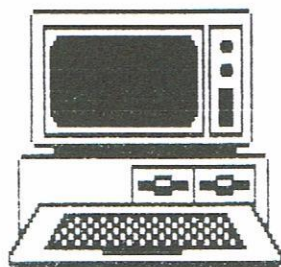
There are some general rules for articles:

Any number 10 or over is written as a number, but nine and under are written as words.

* "Wibble" is a word frequently used, when the need arises to space out text, or fill a box and so on. The term "You'll just have to wibble it up." Is something I will always fondly remember. Maybe I should put on my CV, "Expert wibbler"?

SPECTRUM CLUB

2000 SPECTRUM TITLES
AVAILABLE FOR HIRE



Return 1st class postage paid
For a catalogue and further details
send a stamped self-addressed envelope to:

SOFTSELL (EBM)

32 Dursley Road, Trowbridge, Wilts, BA14 0NP

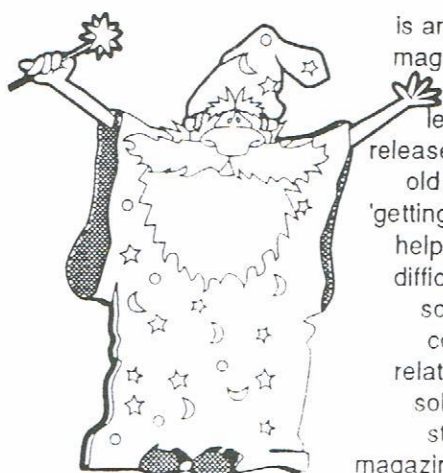
The Softsell Shop is at

16 Church Street, Trowbridge.

Tel: 01225 775446

ADVENTURE PROBE

Adventure Probe



is an all-computers monthly magazine with 56 A5 pages crammed with readers letters, reviews of newly-released adventures, hints for old and new adventures, a 'getting you started' section to help with those frustratingly difficult beginnings, readers software for sale/wanted, computer and adventure related articles, a serialized solution in a walk-through style, advertisements for magazines & software houses, and many more interesting items.

£2.00 per issue (cheques/p.o. payable to Adventure Probe). All enquiries to:

Barbara Gibb (Editor)

Adventure Probe

52 Burford Rd,

Liverpool. L16 6AQ,

England, U.K.

THE magazine for ALL adventarers since June 1986

SPECTRUM GOODS FOR SALE

Spectrum PD Selections at £1.45 on C20 Cassette: 5 Very Best Programs : 4 Great Games : 4 Business Applications : 6 Programmers Utilities : Over 100 titles available individually : 65p each Send for Free List . On Disk List for SAM £1.00.

Spectrum Power Supplies :

£9.95 for +2 £14.95 for +3

Spectrum Software Collectors

Guide : Definitive 48 page booklet/catalogue of the best Spectrum games 1982 - 1988 : Over 100 games reviewed : Just £1.95 (Contributors wanted for 2nd edition!!).

10 Assorted Spectrum Games for £12.00 : 20 for £20.00!! Wide Selection of secondhand titles available.

IBM PC Spectrum Emulators : 2 superb Shareware program s £2.50 Snapshots 95p : Amiga Emulator program £2.00.

Cheetah Sweet Talker : Speech Synthesis were £20.00 now only £14.95.

Cheetah Spectrum : Superb drum Sequencer : was £25 now only £14.95.

Thief Adventure £1.99 **HackPack**

Over 30 on Tape Poke Routines : £3.99

Spi-Droid : £2.99 : **Egghead II** Game

Pack :£2.99 **Pokerama Booklet** over 20 Pages with over 100 games cheats and Pokes : £3.99

When Ordering Please add 65p P&P

Plus our SPECTRE User Group and Newsletter offering New Spectrum/SAM Contacts, Free Help & Advice, Second-hand Hardware, and Software Bought & Sold . Exclusive Club Discounts. Reviews and Information on Fanzines and independent products and much more...

Supporting all SPECTRUMS
(48/+2/+3) and SAM Machines.

For a full information pack - including PD List send an SAE to :-

CHIC COMPUTER CLUB

(FT), P.O. Box 121, Gerrards

Cross, Bucks SL9 9JP :

(0753) 884473.

CHIC:

the very best 8 bit computer user-group offering contacts, news, reviews, PD Software and exclusive special offers to owners of Spectrum, Amstrad CPC, C64 and PCW machines.

For free information pack send an SAE to CHIC (8M), Box 121, Gerrards Cross, Bucks SL9 9JP (01753 884473)

THE BIG FEATURE - WHAT A FUTURE - continued

Each new paragraph starts with a tab, and a new paragraph must not start more than two lines from the top or bottom of a section of page.

The bottoms of paragraphs must come out so they hang over (above) the beginning of the next paragraph, or things start to look bare. The same also goes for captions, they are generally preferred to be written equalish, filling up two (or more) whole lines, and not leaving a great gap.

The name of the program or game (for example, *Fluff*) being reviewed or written about, is always printed in italics, the same goes for the magazine name.

The last thing I recall is the different style of magazines. In AA the standfirst (the bit in bold writing telling you about the article) would always state the author. For example; "Home crafted fanzines and disczines - Are they really worth the money, or are they better than the commercial work of art? Angela Cook dons her most expensive pair of reading glasses and finds out." But in **ST Format**, they have the standfirst introducing the article, but the author is named at the end, with just their name capitalised and in bold.

Before most of this, however, there is what is called a "Flat Plan". This is a sheet of paper, with x amount of small boxes depicting the amount of pages for the magazine. On those small boxes, would be the name of the proposed article that would appear there. Any pages shaded would be mono and not colour, and adverts (with the company advertising) would also appear. At the top of the page would be the date, version, magazine, issue number, deadline, price and any other valid information.

There were many other little things that had to be done; **Amstrad Action** had a special sheet which had to be filled in with the details of the covertape, and there are sheets with the contributor, name of articles and payment due for invoicing.

So what were they like, the people at **Future**? Most of them were really laid-back considering it was deadline week, which is why I had nothing much to do. I think the two main people that readers will know of are Simon Forrester and Karen Levell, both working on CF and AA. When speaking to Karen, you get an image of her, and that is totally different in real life. That's not to say she looked like Lily Savage or anything, she was just different. I think I'm going to be using that word a lot. There was a picture of her in an issue of **Amstrad Action**, and I honestly didn't think it was her, but it was. I can see why she was Editor. She has a no-nonsense sort of personality most of the time, but can still have a good laugh.

Simon Forrester is somewhat different also. Whenever I spoke to him on the phone, every other word was "groovy", but he didn't say it once whilst I was there. It's strange, because he didn't say a whole lot. I thought he was going to be one of those people who was very loud and never stopped talking (like me, I suppose), but he wasn't. I don't want to spoil his "image" either, but suffice it to say, that whatever impression you have of him through the magazines is ninety per cent wrong. He's big too, when he waved his hands around above his head, he nearly destroyed a disk in the ceiling-mounted fans. And yes, he did have hair, lots of it. That is probably the one thing people have asked about him most, his general appearance. He looks very different from his photo. Probably the truest one of him, is in AA when he first joined (issue 88 or 89?). In most of his photos he's smiling, and he looks good when he smiles - keep up that pose, Si.

Everything had been different from what I had expected, very different.

Copyright Angela Cook 1995

OUTLET

The Disk Magazine!



The Most Famous Spectrum Disk Magazine of them All!
Over Two Thousand Items Published since September 1987!

Available for the Plus D or Plus 3.

GAMES! UTILITIES! DEMOS! LETTERS!

ARTICLES! MUSIC! CLIPART! ADVICE!

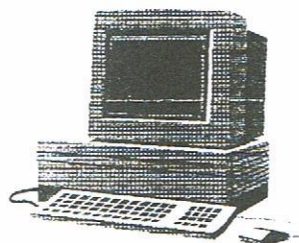
Don't Miss Out On a Slice of Computer History!

Place Your Order NOW for the CENTENARY Edition!

SPECIAL Subscription Price - JUST £10 For SIX Issues!!!

CHEZRON SOFTWARE
34 SALTERSGATE DRIVE, BIRSTALL, LEICESTER, LE4 3FF

PC FOR SALE



386 SX 25

- 60 Mb expandable HD
- Minitower base
- 1.5 Mb RAM
- Colour monitor (keyboard and mouse)
- Windows installed

OIRO £250

For more information Telephone
Neil Robinson (01353) 778676.

BARGAINS GALORE!!!

We specialise in bringing second-hand
Sinclair Spectrum Software to the
public at the cheapest possible price.

**Hundreds of titles available from as
little as 10p each!**

Examples of our stock:

Classics - Jet Pac & Gauntlet
40p each

Past Hits - Operation Wolf
50p

Plus loads of classic utilities
From 20p each

Games Finder Service Also Available.

FOR LATEST LIST WRITE TO:

James Waddington (8BM)
11 Finsbury Drive
Wrose, Bradford, West Yorkshire
BD2 1QA

NO S.A.E. REQUIRED!!!

MUMPITZ

Informationen für Kleinrechner-Benutzer

Können Sie deutsch?

Then you might benefit from reading
'MUMPITZ', which covers most 8bit com-
puters and their emulators on Amiga and
PC. MUMPITZ (= nonsense or rubbish)
tests new products developed by german
tinkers and gives tips for data interchange
between the different systems and hints
for the conversion of graphic formats. You
will also find circuit diagrams for (new)
hardware expansions.

MUMPITZ is a monthly mag and gratis (a
kind of *paper shareware* - international
reply coupons are welcome). For a test
copy write to

**Hans-Christof Tuchen, Lotzestr.10,
D-12205 Berlin**

COMPETITION PAGE

Now we're picking up! The first 8BIT competition was 'somewhat' undersubscribed and the £10 was hardly competed for (although the winner had obviously put a lot of good work into the entry).

The second competition actually drew over 20 entries so the temptation of cash or an extended subscription this side of Christmas must be a real draw.

If you recall, the challenge this time was to list mentions of 8-bit computers (and related hardware - *not software*) in the titles of films. Puns and bad jokes were allowed as long as they were funny. I wish I'd disallowed anything with Dragon in the title.

I list below some of the titles (in almost alphabetical order):

Ace Ventura, Pet Detective, Acorn Green, Address Unknown, Apple Dumpling Gang, Arnold, Beauty and the Beast - it's a joystick, apparently, Blood of the Dragon, Bug, Bugs, Maverick - also a joystick, A Star is born (including remakes), Brother John, Brother Orchid, Cannonball, Cannonball Run, Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Queen, Citizen Kane, The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes, Crash (Sorry, Allan), Disciple of Death, The Discovery Program, Dragon Dies Hard, Dragonfood, Dragonheart (out later this year), Dragonslayer, Dragonwyk, Drive-In, Drive like Lightning, The Driver, Drive-ing Miss Daisy, Enter The Dragon, (Escape to)Victory, Fear is the Key, Hardware, Hex, Jupiter Darling, The Key, The Key to Rebecca, The Last Dragon, Link, Live Wire, Lock Up, Loose Connections, The Mouse That Roared, The Mousetrap, Network, Pet Semetary, Pete's Dragon, The Return, Return of the Dragon, Scanners and derivatives, including Scanner Cop, Short Circuit, Shut Down - I thought that was a Beach Boys album?, Star Trek - all of them, Transformers - the Movie, TRON (Trace On), Way of the Dragon, Year of the Dragon, (Vic) 20,000 Leagues under the Sea,

(Spectrum) 48 Hours, (Pet) 2001, A Space Odyssey.

Also sent: Clockwork Orange, The Hostage Tower, The Macintosh Man, Mac and Me, Paper Chase, The 3 Amigeas, What Katy Did Next. As for MASH - Macintosh, Amstrad, Spectrum Hardware - I don't think so! Virus - not on an 8-bit, matey.

You certainly applied the grey stuff to that lot. And the winner is Gordon 'Woollysoft' Woolliscroft with a staggering 35 permissible titles. Also an honourable mention goes to Dorothy Taylor with 21 (not including MASH!)

So what next for a competition? How about 'The worst program I ever had....' This is inspired by an alleged Flight Simulator called Flight Path 737 published by Anirog, which I just found in a drawer gathering dust. This was so useless, I couldn't even turn the plane round to face down the runway, let alone get the thing to take off, without it crashing (in more ways than one). And then reload from tape each time? I don't think so.

Any type of program qualifies and please let us avoid the subject of any incompatibility with under-specified peripherals to keep me out of the libel court.

Happy or sad stories and endings are equally valid as long as the story entertains. Any submission over 25 words (on paper, please) will be acceptable and the editor's decision is final, even when he's cantankerous, unreasonable, or just wrong. The winner, and some others, may be published if space allows.

The prize this time will be a fine, if slim, volume of cartoons called 'My Computer Doesn't Love Me', which should amuse you while you wait for Flight Path 737 (or a similar horror) to reload from tape for the 37th time.

Or, if you would rather win Flight Path 737, ask and it's yours!

RECENT READING RECEIVED:

8BIT does not cover disc/k magazines in depth as part of its philosophy is to encourage interest in other computers as well as the reader's own and, unless one has access to the computer for which disczines are designed, they are inaccessible to potential new 'readers.' However, all 8-bit publications need all the support they can get, so if publishers or editors of disc/k magazines would like to send me a printed summary of their contents (rather than the disc/k), I will cover that as space allows.

Commodore Zone. No 1. C64. Wow! a new A5 magazine and it's a beauty! With a blue varnished(?) pictorial cover and high quality printing this (I am afraid) is another must for Commodore users. There is news on the soon-to-be reissued C64s in Europe, a music compilation from Martin Galway (no, *not* the Irish bloke with the flute), a new supportware concept from Jon Wells (formerly of **Commodore Format**), an Apex interview, in-depth games reviews (about time too), 4 pages of SEUCK suggestions from Alf Yngve, *another* article (with pictures this time) on GEOS, and a fascinating 'where are they now' feature. I wonder why the main bod in their Genetic Ninja cartoon is called Paul Eddington. Didn't he used to be Prime Minister and a rather underrated Shakespearean actor? And lastly, a lottery numbers picking program (yawn). If there is one thing I would complain about, it is the entirely gratuitous Top Ten Babes. I has no place in a serious magazine and besides, Teri Hatcher (Lois Lane from Superman) only makes number 2! Outrageous! Commodore Zone is edited by Jason Kelk and published by Binary Zone. For a sample copy send £2 to 34, Portland Road, DROITWICH, Worcs WR9 7QW. As it arrived without subscription details, I don't know how much it is, but it's worth at least a couple of quid.

Computer Journal: No 77. All formats, but mainly American. Once again, a wad of good stuff from across the pond, including a reference pull-out on the Z80 family of chips; it's pretty enough to frame! Dave Baldwin has just taken over as editor but the standards well up to expectations. As I'm rushing to get 8BIT finished, I'll save an in-depth run down on this until next time. Meanwhile, if you'd like to subscribe it's \$24 a year for 6 issues and they take VISA or Mastercard. The address is PO Box 3900, Citrus Heights, CA 95611. The phone number is 001 916 722 4970 (they are about 8 hours behind us in the Sacramento area), and the E-mail address is tjc@psyber.com

CPC User: No 55 Mostly CPC. Volume 10 number 14 pages of good CPC stuff, including news on the IEBA and the Protext rescue, a revised Promerge loader, tweaking the Mastercalc spreadsheet, Internet experiences, and much more including items for beginners to quite advanced users. Also part 6 of the Cicero 8-bit internet serial (well, I like it!). Next issue will include a couple of pages on PCs. I hope it's still relevant to CPC users. John Packham (the editor) is looking to move on; he'll be much missed when he goes. This is another very good read. Send £1.50 to UAUG, 19a, Obelisk Road, Woolston, SOUTHAMPTON, Hants SO19 9BL.

Cornwall PCW Club Newsletter: Nos 20 & 21. Recent meetings have covered Ansible Plus and number 20 carries a feature on it and spreadsheets. They meet on the second Saturday each month. May 11th will be on PD and Shareware. Contact new Secretary John Shipcott for details (01209 713997).

The Disc Drive: No 9. PCW. Magazine of the South Essex PCW Club. Includes news of Crawley PCW Club's PCW16 demonstration night on 16th April by a visitor from Amstrad. Informative pieces on typefaces, the history of word processing, and loads of adverts. It has the right balance to appeal to all PCW users, and a nice, 'club' atmosphere. There is a very funny piece by Mike Elliston on PCs calendars' inability to survive the turn of the century. Meetings announced for 9th May - LocoScript Brains Trust, 6th June - Brian Watson on Protext - Ooer! Send £1 to David Lalieu at 10, Sheridan Avenue, Benfleet, Essex SS7 1RD for a sample copy (£8 per annum).

Format: Feb and Mar '96 SAM/Spectrum mostly, but well worth a look by other Z80 computer's users. New SAM hard drive interfaces, secondhand SAMs from just £80, help pages, video titling on a Spectrum, Pro-Dos, C-Maths and news of **Format PC**; now to be launched Mid-March to cover the early Amstrad PCs. Send £1.50 to Format, 34, Bourton Road, GLOUCESTER GL4 0LE.

Mumpitz: No 20. All formats. The German equivalent of 8BIT (only better). Excellent editorial entitled Globale Trantschtanten - global gossiping - about the nonsensical claims of people trying to sell us the Internet as if it was an indispensable feature of modern life. You need to speak to someone in Kuala Lumpur? Also a decoder chip with diagram for communicating between 6502 and Z80 chips and how to hitch high-density PC drives to Amigas. As ever, it takes me ages to translate but if you are reasonably proficient, you would find it very informative. Hans-Christof has kindly sent a summary in English for some recent issues, as well as a 3" CPC disc with his program for converting C64 Koala pics to CPC format (and now I can't find the article) and a GEOS demo for CPC users - wow! Send whatever you can afford (it's worth at least £2) to Hans-Christof Tuchen, Lotzstrasse 10, D-12205 BERLIN for a sample copy.

PC Mart: Fortnightly. As well as hundreds of adverts relevant to 8-bit users, this magazine carries a very informative regular Classic Computers feature and will shortly begin a C64 section as well. Well done and thank you Paul Rigby and Steve Denson for getting steam-driven things back into the newsagents!

PCW Plus: This magazine has taken an upturn recently, with a series of 'for beginners' articles, as well as serious coverage for would-be professional writers. If word processing is a significant part of your computer use, whatever computer you've got, I recommend it. It also carries many adverts from computer supplies companies which are of general interest. As the national PCW forum it is unrivalled and with the PCW16 coming out it should attract a new helping of readers; use it or lose it. £3.25 monthly, and you may have to order it.

The Scotwest PCW Club Newsletter: Nos 049 and 50. Mainly PCW. It's only a folded A4 sheet but carries the bargain section Track (an advertising feature of items under £50) and concise news and articles of interest primarily to PCW users, including a good piece on high density discs. If you're near Glasgow, the Club meets on the first Saturday of each month. For further details write to David Williams, 32/34, Carfin Street, New Stevenston, MOTHERWELL ML1 4JL.

Softsell Newsletter Feb/Mar '96. The letter is a side benefit of the Softsell Spectrum hire service. This issue carries news of SpecTroMania BBS 24hour board on 0045 75367980 (Denmark). Sysops are Michael Bruhn and Carl Lervad and they support the Z80 Spectrum emulator. Michael's keen to swap games. See advert elsewhere for details of how to join the Softsell club.

WACCI: CPC Nos 97 and 98. CPC. Indispensable for CPC Users: A magazine, a club, and claims to be for the serious user (not games). The CPC Emulator, an alternate version of Angela Cook's Future experiences, more on PCs problems with the year 2000, fitting an ABBA switch to a Plus, and a piece on sort routines. Still a mine of useful CPC information, including techy stuff, and much is raised and resolved via the letters column. They also seem to still have an inexhaustible stash of PD and 3" discs at very sensible prices, but they're going up. Send £2 to Paul Dwerryhouse, WACCI, 7, Brunswood Green, Hawarden, Deeside, CLWYD CH5 3JA.

'ZINE 64: Issue 5. C64. Contacts list, competition, interviews, readers' letters and opinions, and a 'hacker owns up' piece. He starts by claiming not to be a pirate, then suggests we send him a disk and he'll fill it up! Amazing. £1.50 with a disk, £1.90 with a tape or send for subscription details from Chris Holgate, 45, Wheatlands Road, PAIGNTON, Devon TQ4 5HX.



Department of
Trade and Industry

151 Buckingham Palace Road
London SW1W 9SS

Enquiries
071-215 5000

Telex 8813148 DIHQ G
Fax 071-215 2909

Mr Peter Langford
Silicon City
Windermere Business Centre
Oldfield Court
Windermere
Cumbria LA23 2HJ

Direct line 0171 215 1573
Our ref DV05
Your ref
Date 23 January, 1996

Dear Mr Langford,

ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY REGULATIONS/DIRECTIVE

Thank you for your letter dated 19 January 1996 concerning the above subject. I apologise for the delay in responding but we have been inundated with requests for advice.

Now that the Regulations are fully in force, we consider that we must increasingly limit our activities to policy setting, central administration and taking up the more complex points of interpretation at European level and therefore it is not possible to provide a written response to your enquiry. However, the DTI has set up a new telephone advice line service to help electrical and electronics equipment manufacturers ensure that they have the most up to date technical information on how to comply with the EMC Regulations. Callers to the advice lines can speak to industry experts who have the appropriate technical knowledge.

The advice lines are run by the EMC Clubs, set up as part of the DTI funded EMC Awareness Campaign which ran from October 1992 to April 1995. They are intended to help, in particular, smaller manufacturers who are still unsure of the extent and requirements of the Regulations but the service is not restricted to any particular size or type of business. They will be in operation for six months from 2 January 1996. The advice line covering your area can be contacted on Tel: 0161 954 0954 and Fax: 0161 745 8362.

I appreciate that this is not the answer you had hoped for but we do not have the necessary technical knowledge of the manufacturing processes, or the resources within the Standards Policy Unit to answer your questions.

Yours sincerely,

PP Angela Finch
Standards Policy Unit 4

RADIATION EMISSIONS AND THE 8-bit COMPUTER USER:

First, please be clear this article is not an April Fool, it's deadly serious.

From late November 1995, manufacturers and suppliers of electrical equipment including computers, their spare parts and peripherals, have been trying to understand and interpret the European Union's new directive on the permitted maximum levels of electromagnetic emissions in order that they may comply with it, as is now required by law.

According to the new Electro-Magnetic Compatibility (EMC) directive 89/336/EEC as amended by EC directive 92/31/EEC, electronic products must not emit electromagnetic radiation which interferes with the operation of radio, telecommunication, or other electronic equipment and must have adequate immunity from electromagnetic disturbance to enable its intended operation. As from 1st January 1996, all electrical, electronic and mechanical devices sold within Europe need to comply with the directive and must carry the new CE-mark legislation. From my experience of similar legislation in other areas (gifts and toys) this generally takes the form of an oval 'CE-approved' sticker without which an item is not allowed to be sold. It is as simple as that.

If you think people selling their equipment second-hand are off the hook, think again. Although equipment bought before the directive is exempt as long as you keep it, it must comply if it is to be sold. And all peripherals, that is add-ons rather than spares and replacement parts, must also comply, even if the machine to which they are to be added does not. Spares are exempt as long as they are replacement parts. As to whether a 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " disc drive replacing a 3" one is permissible, or an alternative chip to replace the existing operating system with another is Ok, your guess is as good as mine.

If you want to do a simple test to know if your computer meets the standard, just try holding a transistor radio near it. If you get interference to the radio programme, and you will, your computer does not comply with the directive and should not be sold on. And suppose you want to add a printer or external disc drive. Without an adequately screened cable your supplier will not be able to sell it to you as the whole unit will be judged to have failed.

It is now up to Trading Standards to enforce this and they are going to be very busy boys and girls. The electrical suppliers are in some confusion and even a letter from Peter Langford of Silicon City to the DTI failed to get clear guidance on the situation. Silicon City are one of the companies making replacement and external drives and they are very concerned that this is enforcing obsolescence.

Any supplier of electrical equipment, including 8-bit computer kit, seems to have just three options: (1) he can declare (self-certify) that his equipment meets the legislation, in which case he can be fined a very large amount of money if he is found to be telling porkies (2) he can produce a technical specification file on the item which can then get in the (long) queue to be approved by a DTI-approved body or (3) he can apply for approval on the basis that his equipment is of a general type which has already been tested and approved. I suppose a fourth alternative exists in waiting for bonfire night, but creating explosions without good cause is also quite illegal and generally frowned upon by the authorities.

Of course, one thing which all this overlooks is why the legislation has been introduced at all. We do live in an electro-magnetically noisy world, and there has been much information put forward recently (largely by a friend of mine in my village, as it happens) on the adverse effects of close and repeated exposure to electromagnetic fields. Whether powerlines or monitors, the motives of this new legislation are good. It is just the implications for us which are so bleak.

A NETWORK SPELL CHECK FOR A FIVER!

BY ANTHONY RAY

One of the drawbacks of using Creative Technology's Network is the inability to use the dictionary supplied with Protext - a big problem for someone like me who likes to type fast - in the certain knowledge that the spell checking routine should pick up most of the typing errors!

Installing Protext on Network - either on a floppy or hard disc is no problem. It is only when you try to use SPELL.COM whilst editing a document that things start to go awry. There is at least one solution available. Let me explain how I got around the difficulty.

Following much experimentation, and for the sake of simplicity I installed Protext - with its spell checking facilities stripped out - onto my Network. Then I installed SPELL.COM with its PROSPELL.DCT as another entirely separate, transient program. For Network display I used the supplied Protext icon, and for the dictionary I 'borrowed' the Wordstar icon which usefully displays 'word' - for wordcheck.

At this point a further problem cropped up. Trying to kick SPELL.COM into action was entirely thwarted by my inability to make SPELL recognise my dictionary disc, a major setback - and this is where pure chance came into the picture.

A few years ago, and for reasons which now escape me, I had purchased Arnor's stand-alone spelling checker (Prospell) disc. I unearthed it and examined its contents.

The only difference that I could determine between it and the supplied spelling check facilities inbuilt with Protext was an additional program called PS.COM. Having already installed SPELL.COM AND PROSPELL.DCT onto a 720k disc, I now added PS.COM from this stand-alone program onto my dictionary disc. On Network it was set up as PS.COM with 'others' SPELL.COM AND PROSPELL.DCT. Bingo! It worked!

There was a bonus. Without departing from the Network environment, I discovered that it not only works on Protext documents, but it also spell checks documents created in MD3's text editor, saved on any drive (including 'M') and in any group. This was quite a breakthrough, made possible by the simple addition of PS.COM to the dictionary disc.

The only slight inconvenience is that I have to return to Network in order to do a spell check. It should also be noted that the file has to be re-loaded into MD3's editor after the spell check is completed - a small price to pay for the advantage of being able to run a spell check through your MD3 editorial masterpiece!

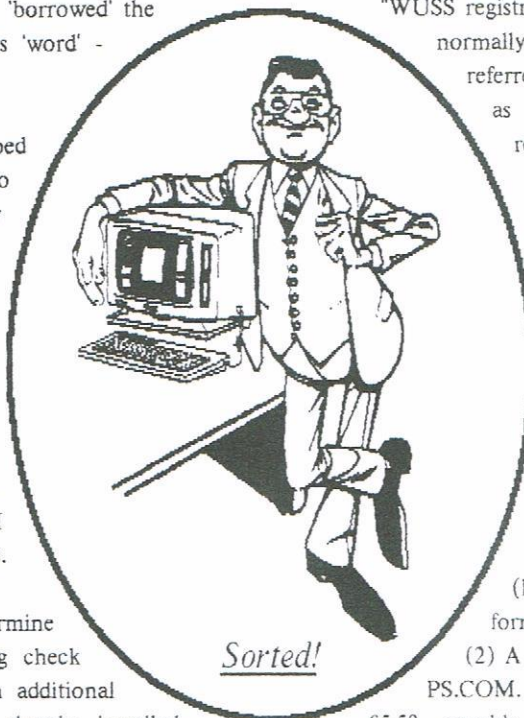
At this point I contacted Brian Watson of WACCO. After explaining the significance of my find, he came up with a generous offer, which runs from March 4th for three months. He is prepared to supply, for the small sum of only £5 the file PS.COM. "I confirm that, for a period of three months initially from the above date, WACCO are prepared to supply the file PS.COM (the 'stand-alone' version of Prospell) to applicants joining WUSS, the WACCO User Support Service at the special price below.

"WUSS registration where an upgrade is required is normally £10 but for the three month period referred to, this will be reduced to just £5 as long as only the PS.COM file is required under the upgrade service. For registration to include a full upgrade to the latest version of Protext as well as PS.COM, the fee remains at £10.

"In order to take advantage of the offer applicants will need to send the following to: WACCO, "Harrowden", 39, High Street, Sutton-in-the-Isle, ELY Cambs CB6 2RA.

- (1) Their Protext master disc (either format) for verification and registration.
- (2) A formatted blank disc (3" or 3-1/2") for PS.COM.
- (3) A cheque or postal order for £5.50 payable to COMSOFT to cover WUSS registration and return postage.
- (4) The applicant's name and address."

To sum up:- Install Protext and strip out SPELL.COM. Then as a stand-alone transient program, install PS.COM - which on its 720k disc you have 'pipped' SPELL.COM & PROSPELL.DCT. The Network assignment file against 'Program' should show PS.COM with 'Others' as SPELL.COM & PROSPELL.DCT. Until a tailored spell checking program is produced for MD3, you might find this an attractive alternative. £5 is a very small price to pay for a spell check program inside Network. Why not give it a try?



SD MICROSYSTEMS

(DEPT Z), PO BOX 24, ATTLEBOROUGH,
NORFOLK NR17 1HL. TEL (01953) 483750

The CPC, PCW and PC SPECIALISTS. SOFTWARE

Wide range of programs including
Business/Accounts, Payroll, Word
Processing/DTP, DataBases, Utilities
plus a Budget Range from only £5.00,
all available on 3", 3.5" or 5.25" disc.
AUTHORISED LOCOMOTIVE DEALERS AND
TASMAN SOFTWARE RANGE STOCKISTS.

SUPPLIES

Blank Discs, Lockable Boxes, Printer
Cables and Ribbons, Labels and more.
NEW! 3" DRIVE REVIVER KIT.....£10.00
Drive Belt, Cleaner, DIY instructions.

HARDWARE

3.5" Disc Drive packages from £75.00,
24-pin Colour Printers from £199.00.
Disk Transfer Service CPC<>PCW<>PC.

*Send an SAE for our current catalogue
stating computer type and disc size.*

This is the new address
of Radical, from which
we keep supporting the
CPC. We now have a
growing catalogue of
exclusive games, and
there are more on the
way, such as the eagerly
awaited Lethal Moves,
and the improved Black
Jack and Cribbage.

The latest additions are
Megablasters (94% in
AA), which comes on
two discs, and the newly
updated Routeplanner.

| TITLE | PRICE |
|------------------|--------|
| Who Said That | £13.95 |
| Smart Plus* | £13.95 |
| Megablasters | £13.95 |
| Fluff* | £7.95 |
| Routeplanner | £19.95 |
| Star Driver | £9.95 |
| Masters Of Space | £9.95 |
| Ball Bearing | £4.95 |

* Plus computers only.

All programs are
available on 3" or 3.5"
disc, please specify
when ordering.

Prices include P&P.

Name.....

Address.....

Post Code..... Tel.....

| PROGRAM | 3"/3.5" DISC | VALUE |
|---------|--------------|-------|
| | | £ |
| | | £ |
| TOTAL | | £ |

Brympton Cottage, Brunswick Road, Worthing,
West Sussex, BN11 3NQ.
Phone/Fax : 01903 206739



Bonzo's Scrapyard

The occasional newsletter for Amstrad CPC
tape to disc transfers

29 Chapter Road, Strood, Rochester,
Kent, ME2 3PX

Bonzo's Scrapyard, the tape to disc transfer information newsletter,
using the Bonzo suite of programs, published quarterly, is available
now from the above address. To receive a copy, send an A5 or A4
sized SAE, plus an additional first class stamp.

The Bonzo programs are now on sale again

The following Bonzo related programs, which between them
transfer over 1400 programs from tape to disc, are available
exclusively from Bonzo's Scrapyard:

- 1 Bonzo Super Meddler and Hackpack
- 2 Bonzo Blitz (for Speedlock programs) and 4 adventure
games written by Colin Harris
- 3 Bonzo's Flashpack (Flash Basic Utilities and Demos)
- 4 Bonzo's Big Batch (Database, Pools Predictor, Sprite/Screen
Designer)
- 5 Maxidos and CPC Procopy

All the above are on 3 inch disc and cost £8.50 per disc,
including P&P.

Also available is the MS800 big format program, this is sup-
plied on 3.5 inch disc and costs £6.50, including P&P.

All the above programs available from the end of September 1995,
please make cheques etc. payable to Mr D. A. Caleno.

U.A.U.G. United Amstrad User Group

The No.1 group for CPC & Plus enthusiasts.
Extensive book lending library...

Extensive CP/M & Amsdos PD library...

Members discounts on hardware & software...



Telephone helplines.

Tape PD library...

Competitions...



Bi-Monthly magazine 'CPC USER' & more!
All this for just £8 a year (UK), £11 (Europe)
or £15.25 (Overseas).

For an application form and further info contact...
Gordon Woolliscroft, 2 Wrenbeck Drive, Otley, West Yorkshire, LS21
2BR. Telephone 01943 463718.

Join Now!!

THE C64 GRAPHIC ENVIRONMENT OPERATING SYSTEM (or GEOS for short) by Andrew Fisher

Introduction: In issue 10 of 8BIT, Andrew Fisher introduced the GEOS operation system for the C64/128 computers. Now he suggests taking some more steps in GEOS.

If you have decided to jump on the GEOS bandwagon, why not join the UK geoClub? A monthly newsletter full of advice and news from GEOS experts, access to a massive software library (at only £1.25 for a double-sided disk) and free technical advice are all yours for £9 in the UK for 1996. Check the current rate for Europe and the Rest of the World by writing to:- GeoClub Information, Frank Cassidy, 55, High Bank Road, Droylsden, Manchester, M43 6FS. Cheques/postal orders should be in sterling made payable to geoClub.

So, in summary, GEOS is one of the most important pieces of software you can buy. But will it affect users of other 8 bit machines? If you want to do a lot of word processing then a dedicated commercial word processor for your machine would be a good buy. But if you do a lot of graphic work, want the ease of use of a PC running Windows without the huge price tag, or are simply crying out for new and exciting ways to use a computer, GEOS is a good reason for buying a secondhand C64. If you are a "do-er" rather than a collector, check the classified ads in your local paper - C64 plus disk drives now sell for under 50 quid (I bought mine for £15-BW).

EXPANDING YOUR GEOS SYSTEM

There are many add-ons available for the GEOS system, either complete applications by Berkeley Softworks or many of the great independent programmers, or hardware that will improve your working environment. Here is a whistle-stop guide to the best.

HARDWARE:

The great thing about GEOS is the versatility; one important area is the use of input drivers. Most people struggle along with a joystick; Creative Micro Designs offer two alternatives, the SmartMouse and SmartTrack. The two devices are very similar. Both have 3-buttons, come complete with Basic utilities, GEOS drivers and remarkably a battery-powered real time clock that can be set/read from GEOS or Basic. You can even alter the configuration of the buttons.

Extra memory is also a good idea - you might like to try a Commodore RAM Expansion Unit, or the vastly superior RAMLink which can have up to 16Mb of memory and emulates standard disk drives for maximum compatibility. Another useful add-on is Jiffy DOS - replacement Kernal chips for the computer (and one for each disk drive) that gives a speed boost and DOS wedge.

SOFTWARE: The original software designed for use with GEOS by Berkeley Softworks is easy to learn; each comes with a comprehensive manual full of examples and tutorials, and the point and click environment (similar to Windoze on a PC) makes the process quick. If you want to compare the titles with software available on other platforms, read the following:-

SPREADSHEET - most computers have a spreadsheet; GEOS has GEOCALC, featuring a massive 20,000 cells. Mathematical, trigonometric, scientific and statistical calculations are available, along with the ability to cut and paste portions of a sheet. It's also very easy to transfer data to another program, for example

GRAPHING SOFTWARE - GEOCHART features 9 different types of chart and graph, including pie, line and bar. You also get complete control of how the finished chart and its text appears.

DATABASE - GEOFILE is the graphical database for GEOS, with all the standard search

and data entry functions you would expect. Setting up a database is as simple as drawing a few boxes and deciding what each will contain. Comprehensive printing options round out the package, allowing single or selected records, and even different layouts (e.g. address label, membership list; output can be on paper, index card or labels)

DESKTOP PUBLISHING - Do you need an object-orientated desktop publishing program? **GEOPUBLISH** is a massive 99K of program, including a text editor, separate work areas for the master page (what appears on every page), layout of text and graphics, and the extra embellishments over the top of the layout and master. With text up to 192pt (over 2 inches) and comprehensive graphics tools, everything from a single page flyer to a parish magazine is possible (geoNews, the magazine of geoClub UK used to be produced every month on a C128 running geoPublish.)

AND THERE'S MORE: The great thing about GEOS is that if you are not happy with what you have got, there are ways to improve it. There are hundreds of PD, Shareware and commercial programs that improve on the original functions of GEOS - picture convertors, fax software (send and receive faxes with a suitable modem), games, utilities and so on. And if you cannot find a program to do what you want, then why not try **GEOBASIC** or **GEOPROGRAMMER** and program it yourself?

GeoBasic comes with everything you need to write a Basic program that takes advantage of the GEOS environment - windows, icons, sprites etc. With the added features of labels (remembering @start is easier than GOTO 1900) and the ability to make a program that runs outside of **GeoBasic** with a click on its icon, if you are a competent Basic programmer you will get a kick out of **GeoBasic**.

For the machine code programmer, **GeoProgrammer** and its 400+ page manual may seem a little daunting. But with tutorials, source code for the demo applications and a little patience you will soon be creating your own utilities. The advanced features of GEOS are accessible through data tables, and the unique feature is that **GeoWrite** is used to write the source code allowing you to import graphics data by just pasting in a photo scrap. **GeoAssembler**, **GeoLinker** and **GeoDebugger** are the three programs included; those with a Ram Expansion Unit will find they can access the **SuperDebugger** with advanced capabilities - develop a 64K+ application and you'll still be able to look through the code and see it run.

FOR THE BEST GEOS COVERAGE AVAILABLE IN BRITAIN YOU NEED COMMODORE WORLD

Begin my Commodore World subscription (8 issues) from the next available issue!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Tel: _____

1 Year Subscription: ☐ U.K. 35.00 ☐ Europe 40.00 ☐ REST. 48.00

Method of payment: ☐ Cheque ☐ Postal Order ☐ Cash

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Switch ☐ Delta ☐ JCB ☐ Electron ☐ Eurocard

Card number Expiry date

Signature: _____ Issue Number or Valid from date (switch cards)

Prices in pounds sterling, make Cheques and Postal Orders payable to:- EBES, and send to:-
Commodore World, c/o EBES, 2A Woollaston Road, Harringay, London, N4 1SE.

All subscriptions received before end of April 1996 will be entered in a prize draw.

1st prize - HD40 or 4MB RAMlink

2nd prize - FD2000

3rd prize - JiffyDOS system

plus 10 runner up prizes.



WoW SOFTWARE

ADVENTURES FOR THE 464 & 6128



NEW ADVENTURES

SIMPLY MAGIC
CRISPIN CRUNCHY
TIME

AUTHOR

M & J TREWHELLA
M & J TREWHELLA
M & J TREWHELLA

CASSETTE

£2
£2
£2

DISC

£4
£4
£4

ALL 3 GAMES ON 1 DISC

ORB QUEST (Four Parts)

THE TALISMAN OF POWER
POWER CURSE (Two Parts)
ADVENTURES OF ZEBEDEE GONIG
JUSTICE (Two Parts)
BEYOND THE DARK MIRROR

P & T STITT
CHRIS BURY
ADRIAN CONN
DARREN THOMAS
ANGELA SWINBOURNE
RCD ENTERPRISES

£5
£2
£3
£2
£3
£2

£5
£4
£5
£4
£5
£4

WHO'S AFRAID OF THE BALROG?

ESCAPE FROM PRISON PLANET (Two Parts)
HOUNDS OF HELL (Two Parts)
A MIDSUMMER DAY'S DREAM (Two Parts)
RAIDERS OF THE LOST TOMBS (Two Parts)
(All Above Games - 464 or 6128 or PCW)
"DREAM" - Parts 1 & 2 - "PIRATE PROBLEMS"
"DREAM" - Parts 3 & 4 - "WONDERLAND"
RAIDERS OF THE LOST TOMBS (Two Parts)

MARLON

PETER CLARK
PETER CLARK
PETER CLARK
PETER CLARK
PETER CLARK
PETER CLARK
PETER CLARK

£2

DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY

£4

£5
£5
£5
£5
£5
£5
£5

2, 3 or 4 GAMES ON 1 DISC £7, £9 or £11

GAC Tape - £3
GAC Tape - £3
GAC Tape - £3

THE ANGELICUS SAGA (Two Parts)
THE ANGELICUS ANSWER
THE ANGELICUS SAGA & ANGELICUS ANSWER

M & MJ CREWDSON
M & MJ CREWDSON
M & MJ CREWDSON

£3
£2
2 GAMES ON 1 DISC

£5
£4
£6

HELVERA - MISTRESS OF THE PARK
GRUE-KNAPPED
HELVERA & GRUE-KNAPPED

BOB ADAMS
BOB ADAMS
BOB ADAMS

£2
£2
2 GAMES ON 1 DISC

£4
£4
£5

MAGICIAN'S APPRENTICE
PRISON BLUES
TOTAL REALITY DELUSION
DANGER! ADVENTURER AT WORK!
DANGER! ADVENTURER AT WORK TWO!
GERBIL RIOT OF '87
DANCES WITH BUNNY RABBITS

SIMON AVERY
SIMON AVERY
SIMON AVERY
SIMON AVERY
SIMON AVERY
SIMON AVERY
SIMON AVERY

£2
£2
£2
£2
£2
£2
£2

£4
£4
£4
£4
£4
£4
£4

Choose any one of the above Simon Avery games on disc at £4 and Add one or more games at £1 each
A THIEF'S TALE (Three Parts)
A THIEF'S TALE - Any 3 Simon Avery Games

For Example:-
SIMON AVERY

6 GAMES ON 1 DISC
£4
4 GAMES ON 1 DISC

£9
£6
£9

A Day in the Life of a TUPPERWARE SALESMAN
+ GRIMWOLD'S BIG ADVENTURE - FREE!

GRIMWOLD

£3

£5

MERLIN (Two Parts)
PRE-HISTORY

MICHAEL HUNT
MICHAEL HUNT

£3
£2

£5
£4

YARKON BLUES
YARKON BLUES II (Two Parts)
THE SMIRKING HORROR
HELP Inc.

JASON DAVIS
JASON DAVIS
JASON DAVIS
JASON DAVIS

£2
£3
£2
£2

£4
£5
£4
£4

YARKON BLUES I & II & SMIRKING HORROR
YARKON BLUES I & II, SMIRKING & HELP Inc.
OUT OF THE LIMELIGHT (PAW)

JASON DAVIS
JASON DAVIS
J SCOTT & S BOYD

3 GAMES ON 1 DISC
4 GAMES ON 1 DISC
DISC ONLY

£7
£8
£4

FOR PETE'S SAKE (Two Parts) (PAW)
+Free Game - FRED'S NIGHTMARE
ESCAPE FROM HODGKINS' MANOR (PAW)
RED ALERT (Two Parts) (PAW)
BEGINNING OF THE END (Two Parts) (PAW)
THE END IS NIGH (Three Parts) (PAW)
ALL PAW GAMES - 464 or 6128 or PCW
THE TAXMAN COMETH (464 or 6128) (GAC)
TAX RETURNS (464 or 6128) (GAC)
THE FINAL DEMAND (464 or 6128) (GAC)
THE TAXMAN COMETH (PAW)
TAX RETURNS (PAW)
THE FINAL DEMAND (PAW)
ALL PAW GAMES - 464 or 6128 or PCW

STEPHEN BOYD
STEPHEN BOYD
J SCOTT & S BOYD
J SCOTT & S BOYD
J SCOTT & S BOYD
J SCOTT & S BOYD

DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
4 GAMES ON 1 DISC

£5
£5
£4
£5
£6
£11

STEVE CLAY
STEVE CLAY
STEVE CLAY
STEVE CLAY
STEVE CLAY
STEVE CLAY

£2
£2
£2
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY
DISC ONLY

TAPE ONLY
TAPE ONLY
TAPE ONLY
£4
£4
£6

GAMES FOR CHILDREN

THE LAST SNOWMAN (Personalised)
THE BIG TOP
SEVEN LOST GNOMES
THE CASE OF THE MIXED-UP SHYMER
2 GAMES ON 1 DISC

M & MJ CREWDSON
RONNIE SLATER
DOROTHY JONES
SANDRA SHARKEY

£2
£2
£2
£2
4 GAMES ON 1 DISC

£4
£4
£4
£4
£7

RE-RELEASED ADVENTURES

THE TRIAL OF ARNOLD BLACKWOOD
ARNOLD GOES TO SOMEWHERE ELSE
THE WISE AND FOOL OF ARNOLD BLACKWOOD
ANGELIQUE A GRIEF ENCOUNTER
BRAWN FREE

COLIN HARRIS
COLIN HARRIS
COLIN HARRIS
COLIN HARRIS
COLIN HARRIS

£2
£2
£2
£2
5 GAMES ON 1 DISC

£2
£2
£2
£2
£6

LOST PHIRIOUS PART 1 - THE CASIOPIA
LOST PHIRIOUS PART 2 - THE PLANETS
LOST PHIRIOUS PART 3 - FALKRANON

NEIL SCRIMGEOUR
NEIL SCRIMGEOUR
NEIL SCRIMGEOUR

£1.50
£1.50
£1.50

£3.50
£3.50
£3.50

BLACK KNIGHT (Two Parts)
ATALAN

MANDY RODRIGUES
MANDY RODRIGUES

£3
£2

£5
£6

CITY FOR RANSOM
PANIC BENEATH THE SEA (Two Parts)
PROJECT ANNIHILATION

JOHN PACKHAM
JOHN PACKHAM
JOHN PACKHAM

£2
£3
£2

£4
£4
£4

PROJECT X - MICROMAN
FLOOK (Two Parts)
CRYSTAL THEFT
COLDITZ ESCAPE (Two Parts)
THE SOUND OF HIM

T KEMPIJ LEMMON
DAVID OYA
PAUL WILSON
FRANK FRIDD
FRANK FRIDD

£2
£3
£1.50
£3
£3

£4
£5
£3.50
£5
£5

VIDEOWORLD (Two Parts)

GRAHAM PARRY

GAMES ON 1 DISC

£6

ALL PRICES ARE INCLUSIVE OF FIRST CLASS POSTAGE WITHIN THE UK.
PLEASE ADD £1 TO COVER ADDITIONAL POSTAGE FOR OVERSEAS MAIL

CROSSED CHEQUES/POSTAL ORDERS PAYABLE TO: JG PANCOTT
ADDRESS: 78 RADIPOLE LANE, WEYMOUTH, DORSET DT4 9RS

TELEPHONE: 01305 784155 1pm to 10 pm

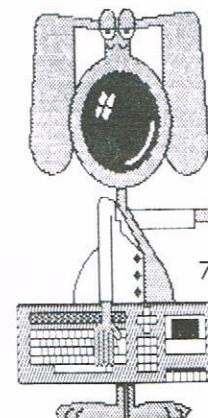


THE WORLDWIDE AMSTRAD CPC USERS CLUB

The club offers its members not only the best CPC magazine for the serious user but...

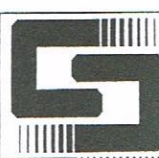
- * Public Domain Software Library
- * Homegrown Software Library
- * Book Library
- * Tape Software Library
- * Telephone Helplines
- * And much much more...

The club, founded in 1986, is run on a non-profit making basis, by members for the benefit of members. If you own an Amstrad CPC and are serious about your CPC, then WACCI is the Club for you.



FOR A FREE
SAMPLE COPY
OF THE CLUB
MAGAZINE
SEND A 29p
STAMP TO:
WACCI
7 BRUNSWOOD GN
HAWARDEN
DEESIDE
CLWYD
CH5 3JA

The UK's premier CPC Magazine and Club



CampurSoft
DESIGN / SOFTWARE / HARDWARE

10 MCINTOSH COURT,
WELLPARK, GLASSBORO
G31 2HW
0141 554 4735

PLEASE ADD £1.00 TO ALL DISC
OR ROM ORDERS FOR FIRST CLASS
POSTAGE. ALL OUR PRODUCTS ARE
FULLY GUARANTEED.

CUSTOMERS WISHING TO PAY BY
CREDIT CARD PLEASE CALL 041
554 4735 (24 HOUR ANSWERPHONE).

- 1) ProPrint - Protect text enhancement program, multiple fonts etc. Allows users to design their own fonts with inbuilt font editor. For all Amstrad CPC disc machines. Disc - £15.99 ROM - £24.99
- 2) MicroDesign Plus - Page processing package, consisting of two discs and two manuals. Menu driven DTP system, high quality print output. For all Amstrad CPC disc machines with 128k. £29.99
- 3) MicroDesign Extra - Disc of clip-art for use with MicroDesign Plus. Consists of large headline fonts, musical notation symbols, flowchart symbols etc. ROMDOS D20 format £13.99 or 3" disc £14.99
- 4) The Maps Libraries For MicroDesign Plus:
 - a) Maps Of The British Isles - Sixteen Hi-Res (256k strip format) maps of the coastline, motorways, counties and towns of the UK. ROMDOS D20 format - £12.99 or 3" format (2 discs) - £14.99
 - b) World Maps - Fifteen Hi-Res maps of America, Europe, Asia etc. ROMDOS D20 (3.5" disc) format - £12.99 or 3" format - £13.99
- 5) The Desktop Environment System - Sophisticated CPC graphical user interface, based on an Apple Macintosh style WIMP environment. For all CPC disc machines. Disc - £14.99 ROMS (2) - £24.99
- 6) 2in1 - PC to CPC transfer program, runs under CPM. Allows the user to swap between a PC and the CPC using an interchangeable disc format. For all Amstrad CPC disc machines with 128k running under CPM3. £19.99
- 7) ParaDos - Superb Disc Operating System for use with large format 3.5" B drives. Compatible with and superior to ROMDOS. This is the only DOS ROM which should be inserted in ROM slot seven thereby freeing an extra slot for more software. £14.99
- 8) The Basic Idea - Quality Basic tutorial aimed at the competent Basic programmer. Consists of a 42 page manual and disc of example programs. £14.99
- 9) Xexor - Sophisticated file management/disc backup utility, capable of backing up almost all protected CPC discs. £14.99
- 10) Soft-Lok V2.3 - Comprehensive tape to disc utility, specifically designed to transfer speedlock protected games to disc. £14.99
- 11) CampurSoft Rombox - Cased 8 socket Rombox expandable to 15 sockets, ideal for DES, ParaDos, Protext etc. £35.00 + £2.00 postage.

VERY ATTRACTIVE SHORTS

Mark Sturdy managed a couple of late entries for our last competition (song titles with computer terms in):

- 1) Always CRASHing in the same car - David Bowie; a reference to a rather good Sam/Spectrum magazine
- 2) Go WEST - Village People & Pet Shops Boys; something to do with a company who sell 8-bit kit (either West of Britain or, more likely, West Coast)
- 3) Commercial Breakup - Thomas Dolby; alluding to the state of the 8-bit scene over the last five years
- 4) Pyjamarama - Roxy music; and also the title of an old Spectrum game
- 5) STAR 69 - R.E.M.; that's more like it, printers etc
- 6) One note SAMba - Dizzy Gillespie (and others)

Sorry, Mark, yer tooo late, but nice try.

I am advised by John Lanham that issue 2 of a newish magazine **RETROGAMES**, including profiles of old computers, games and people (I wonder if I'm in it) could be worth a look. It is £2.50 per copy from 61 Baccara Grove, BLETCHLEY, Milton Keynes MK2 3AS. Thanks, John.

I've also received a large wad of stuff from Vic Gerhardt of Rakewell Ltd on the Z88, which they still actively sell and support with a magazine, a very wide range of peripherals and parts.

I know next to nothing about a Z88 (anyone like to enlighten me and the rest of 8BIT's readership with a short article). From the list, it appears you can upload Z88 files to almost any other computer. As well as meeting them at the All-formats shows, you can contact the company at 24, Putnams Drive, Aston Clinton, AYLESBURY, Bucks HP22 5HH. 01296 630617.

Any Mini-Office Professional experts out there? Poor Keith Bull and Peter Edwards have been struggling to get it to auto-load on their PCWs. It seems both may have just about done it now with C/PM 1.15 but what a hassle and it's still a bit fragile. Can anyone help? Please respond through 8BIT.

Ron King would like to bring it to the wider world that he supplies refurbished parts for PCWs at reasonable cost and is also able to help on a range of PCW problems. He sounds like my kind of guy. You can contact Ron on 01234 (BEDFORD) 268474.

Does anyone know anything about an Ericsson portable computer from 1985? A Mrs Barr has one and is after ribbons and discs for it. Her address is 36, Greenways, Lydney, Glos GL15 5HY.

Thanks to all the readers who kindly rallied round with offers of help while I was arm-wrestling with my printer and his sudden price increase. He has now decided to hang on to two master copies of 8BIT which I had left with him for reprinting. I don't owe him money, you know!

If any reader could lend me their copies of issue 4 and issue 7 of 8BIT for a few days so that I can produce new masters I would be very much obliged. Also I would like an *original* of issue 1 (when it was called 8BIT MART) rather than just the loose sheet reprints I have sent out free with back orders. Please phone first. All postage costs will be refunded.

I have just heard from Stephen Potts, (Einstein, CPC and PCW fan) that he has had expensive problems with a Maplins Romboard and a Parados chip and thinks the same problem might also blow DES roms. He also thinks the problem also occurs with an Amstrad AD2 board - strange, as they also made the computer it was to work with. Anyway, please be careful. He has offered an Einstein article and, on the readers behalf, I have said, "Yes please."

Did anyone else see Janet Street-Porter and some chums on a Without Walls feature ripping (verbally) into Internet nerds? It was quite brilliant and deserves a repeat at prime time. This whole nonsense about virtual friends living virtual lives in virtual space was shown up for the sad, second-rate, obsessive behaviour it is.

There is no harm in playing games but reality wins out every time.

SOFTWARE

C64/128 PRODUCT PRICE LIST

HARDWARE

HD Series SCSI Hard Drives

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| HD-40 (Limited Supply) | £299.00 |
| HD-340 | £379.00 |
| HD-500 | £459.00 |
| HD-1000 | £599.00 |
| HD-2000 | £899.00 |

FD Series 3.5" Floppy Drives

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| FD-2000 (800k and 1.6Mb) | £199.00 |
| FD-4000 (800k, 1.6Mb and 3.2Mb) | CALL |
| Real Time Clock Option | £20.00 |
| RTC Kit (for existing FD owners) | £29.00 |
| 10 x 3.5" ED Disks (3.2Mb) | £35.00 |
| 10 x 3.5" DD Disks (1.6Mb) | £9.50 |
| 10 x 3.5" DD Disks (800k) BRANDED | £6.50 |

JiffyDOS

| | |
|--|--------|
| (Specify computer serial number & drive model) | ... |
| JiffyDOS C64 System | £49.00 |
| JiffyDOS C128/128D System | £55.00 |
| Additional drive ROMs | £20.00 |

Miscellaneous Hardware

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1541 II Disk Drive w/software pack | £125.00 |
| 1541 II/1581 Comp. PSU (Power Pack) | £39.00 |
| 1084S 40/80 Column Monitor | £249.00 |
| Aprotek 3-way User Port Expander | £29.00 |
| Aprotek User Port Extension Cable | £19.00 |
| Canon BJ30 Bubblejet Printer | £219.00 |
| Canon BJ200ex Bubblejet Printer | £239.00 |
| Canon BJ4000 Colour Bubblejet | £299.00 |
| Star LC100 9pin Colour Dot Matrix | £169.00 |
| Panasonic KXP1150 9pin Dot Matrix | £149.00 |
| Panasonic KXP2023 24pin Dot Matrix | £169.00 |
| Micro R+D Printer Interface | £49.00 |
| GeoCable (Parallel/Centronics Cable) | £19.99 |
| GeoCable II (with Passthru port) | £29.99 |
| Smartmouse (1351 Compatible) | £55.00 |
| Trackball (1351 Compatible) | £69.00 |
| Gamepad/Joystick Controller | £ 9.99 |
| BP Pro Joystick | £12.00 |
| EX3 Cartridge Port Expander | £39.00 |
| EX2-1 Cartridge Port Expander | £39.00 |
| Cables (Monitor, Drives, etc) | CALL |
| Joysticks (call for various models) | from £ 9.99 |

Utilities

| | |
|---|--------|
| Big Blue Reader | £39.00 |
| Compression Kit '94 | £39.00 |
| CMD Utilities | £19.00 |
| 1541 Utilities | £9.99 |
| Centronics Printer Utilities (for GEOS) | £9.99 |
| JiffyMON 64 (ML Monitor) | £19.00 |
| Maverick v5 | £19.00 |
| 1581 Toolkit | £19.00 |
| 1541/1571 Drive Alignment Kit | £12.50 |

GEOS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| GEOS 64 | £44.00 |
| GEOS 128 | £49.00 |
| GeoFile 64 | £40.00 |
| GeoFile 128 | £45.00 |
| GeoCalc 64 | £40.00 |
| GeoCalc 128 | £45.00 |
| GeoProgrammer | £45.00 |
| GeoPublish | £40.00 |
| GeoChart | £29.00 |
| Desk Pack Plus | £29.00 |
| Font Pack Plus | £25.00 |
| Font Pack International | £25.00 |
| SuperFonts | £12.00 |
| Merge Fonts | £12.00 |
| Special Font Collection | £15.00 |
| GeoMakeBoot | £12.00 |
| GateWay 64 | £29.00 |
| GateWay 128 | £29.00 |
| Collette Utilities | £19.00 |
| GeoBASIC | £22.00 |
| GEOS Companion | £25.00 |
| GEOS Power Pack 1 or 2 | £25.00 |
| GeoShell | £25.00 |
| Perfect Print LQ System | £39.00 |
| Perfect Print LQ System + Fonts 1 & 2 | £49.00 |
| PPLQ Font Collection 1,2 or 3 | £12.00 |
| PPLQ Border Font Collection | £12.00 |
| GeoFax | £39.00 |
| Dweezils Greatest Hits | £35.00 |
| Graphics Pak I | £12.00 |
| Graphics Pak II | £12.00 |

RAMLink

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| RAMLink Base Unit w/RAMCard 0Mb | £199.00 |
| 1Mb SIMM Module (1-4) | £39.00 |
| 4Mb SIMM Module (1-4) | £129.00 |
| RAM Card Realtime Clock option | add £10.00 |
| RAM Card D.I.Y. RTC Kit | £20.00 |
| Battery Backup | £25.00 |
| Parallel Cable (RAMLink to HD) | £15.00 |

RAM Expansions

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| 1650 Super Clone (512k) | £99.00 |
| BBGRAM 1Mb | £169.00 |
| BBGRAM 2Mb | £199.00 |
| PSU for BBGRAM, RAMDrive | £19.00 |
| BBU | £19.00 |

MIDI & Sound

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| SID Symphony Stereo Cartridge | £45.00 |
| SONUS 64 Sequencer w/MIDI | £99.00 |
| SONUS 128 Sequencer | £99.00 |
| Dr. T's Patch Librarians | £25.00 |
| Dr. T's Alhythmic Composer | £25.00 |

Languages & Compilers

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Petspeed 64 (Basic compiler) | £12.00 |
| Oxford Pascal | £12.00 |
| Cobol 64 | £18.00 |
| Fortran 64 | £18.00 |
| Power C | £18.00 |
| Buddy Assembler 64/128 | £29.00 |
| Turbo Assembler | £9.99 |
| Turbo Cross Assembler w/Cable | £19.99 |

Productivity

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| CADpak 64 | £22.00 |
| CADpak 128 | £25.00 |
| ChartPak 64 | £18.00 |
| ChartPak 128 | £25.00 |
| I-Paint (128, 80-col, 64k VDC) | £39.00 |
| I-Port (128, 80-col, 64k VDC) | £29.00 |
| Personal Portfolio Manager | £18.00 |
| Superbase 64 | £35.00 |
| Superbase 128 | £35.00 |
| Superscript 128 | £22.00 |
| RUN Productivity Pak 1,2 or 3 | £18.00 |
| RUN Super Starter Pak, 1541 or 1581 | £18.00 |
| RUN Works | £18.00 |
| ReRUN Disks | £8.00 |
| The Write Stuff 64 w/BB Speller | £29.00 |
| The Write Stuff 128 w/BB Speller | £39.00 |
| TWS Add-ons (HD, RAMLink, BBTalker) | £5.00 |
| TWS 3.5" Versions | £5.00 |
| TWS BB Templates (500 Samples) | £10.00 |
| The Illustrator (TWS add-on) | £5.00 |
| Fun Graphics Machine | £29.00 |
| FGM Clipart 1/2/3 | £18.00 |

Keystone Databases:-

| | |
|--|--------|
| - Stamp, Coin Collection, Book Library, Mail List | |
| - Video Library, Cassette Library, CD/Record Library | |
| - Baseball Cards, Photo/Slide Library | |
| - Home Inventory... STATE WHICH! | £19.00 |
| Label Maker | £19.00 |
| Leyroy's Cheatsheets (Key Overlay's) | £4.50 |
| - Beginner Sheets, GEOS, Superbase/script | |
| - Elite, Doodle, Flight Sim II... Over 50 available. | |

Telecommunications

| | |
|--|---------|
| Aprotek 2400 baud modem | £59.00 |
| Commodore 1670, 1200 baud modem | £20.00 |
| Desktop 9600baud Modem | £59.00 |
| Supra 14.4k baud Fax/Modem | £169.00 |
| Swiftlink RS232 Cartridge | £45.00 |
| Swiftlink Modem cable (DB9-DB25) | £12.00 |
| Aprotek Modem Adaptor (C= to PC modem) | £25.00 |

Books

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Ideas for use on your C64 | £14.00 |
| C64 Tricks and Tips | £14.00 |
| Graphics Book for C64 | £14.00 |
| Anatomy of the 1541 | £14.00 |
| Printer Book for the C64 | £14.00 |
| Science and Engineering for the C64 | £14.00 |
| Compiler Design and Implementation | £14.00 |
| Mapping the C64 | £14.00 |
| Simple Internet | £25.00 |
| GEOS Programmer's Ref. Guide | £35.00 |
| Hitchhikers Guide to GEOS | £35.00 |
| Scanning & Video | ... |
| Handyscanner | £199.00 |
| Digitizer | £189.00 |
| Pagefox (DTP Cartridge, 100kb RAM) | £139.00 |

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Videofax (Video titling) | £89.00 |
| Genbox (Genlock Video Mixer) | £229.00 |

Games

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Atomino | £15.00 |
| Ballistix | £15.00 |
| Blood Money | £15.00 |
| Chomp | £15.00 |
| Laser Squad | £15.00 |
| Mainframe | £15.00 |
| Menace | £15.00 |
| Navy Seal | £15.00 |
| Rings of Medusa | £15.00 |
| The President Is Missing | £15.00 |
| Amazing Spiderman | £15.00 |
| The Three Stooges | £15.00 |
| Total Eclipse | £15.00 |
| The Break Tennis | £15.00 |
| Skate or Die | £17.00 |
| Ultima V, Warriors of Destiny | £12.00 |
| RUN 128 Funpak | £12.00 |
| RUN C64 Gamepak | £12.00 |
| RUN C64 Strategy Games 1 + 2 | £12.00 |
| RUN Educational Pak 1 + 2 | £12.00 |

EBES Releases

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Heavenbound | £9.99 |
| Lions of the Universe | £9.99 |
| Saliva Kid 3.5" or 5.25" | £5.99 |
| Chicken | £4.99 |
| Sword of Honour 3.5" or 5.25" | £12.99 |
| Walkerz 3.5" or 5.25" | £9.99 |
| Super Nibbly | £9.99 |
| CosmoX | £9.99 |
| Fred's Back II | £9.99 |
| Fred's Back III | £9.99 |
| Dark Caves | £9.99 |
| Arc Doors | £9.99 |
| Coal Miner | £9.99 |
| Eskimo Games | £9.99 |
| Mega Starforce | £9.99 |
| Misfortune | £9.99 |
| Twin Terrors | £9.99 |

Miscellaneous Supplies

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 5.25" Disk Box (50 Capacity) | £8.99 |
| 5.25" Disk Box (100 Capacity) | £9.99 |
| 3.5" Disk Box (50 Capacity) | £7.99 |
| 3.5" Disk Box (100 Capacity) | £8.99 |
| 3.5" Step Cube (15 Capacity) | £2.99 |
| 3.5" Coloured Disk Box (10 Capacity) | £4.99 |
| Disk Mailers 5.25" or 3.5" (10 Pack) | £7.50 |
| Mouse Mats (Red, Blue, or Grey) | £5.99 |
| Mouse Holder (attaches to Monitor) | £7.50 |
| Document Holder | £9.99 |
| A4 Copier Paper (1 Ream) | £12.99 |
| A4 Coloured Paper (1 Ream) | £10.99 |
| Computer Listing Paper (500 Sheets) | £10.99 |
| Printer Ribbons/Cartridges:- | £6.99 |
| - Panasonic 1150, 2023 | £9.99 |
| - Star LC10 | £25.00 |
| - Canon BJ200ex, BJ30 | £22.00 |
| - Canon BJ4000 | £22.00 |
| Labels (suitable for Label Maker):- | £3.99 |
| - Address or Disk Labels (100Pk) | £1.99 |
| - Audio Cassette Labels (25Pk) | £2.50 |
| - Video Cassette Labels (25Pk) | £2.50 |
| - Index Cards 5" x 3" (25Pk) | £2.50 |
| - Index Cards 4" x 2 1/6" (25Pk) | £2.50 |
| - Shipping labels (25Pk) | £3.99 |
| - 3.5" Disk Labels (100Pk) | £3.99 |

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| 5.25" Blank Disks (10 Pack) | £2.99 |
| 5.25" Blank Disks (50 Pack) | £22.99 |
| 5.25" Blank Disks (100 Pack) | £23.99 |

CALL FOR LARGER QUANTITIES!

REFURBISHED EQUIPMENT ALSO AVAILABLE!

EBES SERVICE CENTRE!

All Commodore equipment repaired, please call for details. JiffyDOS installation service also available.

COMMODORE WORLD Subscriptions available. Back issues £4.95 + postage. RUN magazine back issues £3.95 + postage. UK postage 50p, £1 Europe, £2 R.O.W.

ELECTRIC BOYS

-- ENTERTAINMENT SOFTWARE --

2A Woodlawn Road, Harringay, London N4 1SE
Tel/Fax: 0181-372-9346

Payment & Delivery:- EBES accepts Cash, Cheque, Postal Order, VISA, MasterCard, Switch, Delta, JCB, Eurocheque. 5% surcharge on credit cards, 50p on debit cards. Items in stock are usually delivered within 7 working days, for most hardware and import items made to order, please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery. Prices and specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

SINCLAIR SPECTRUM - FOR SALE

Loads of Spectrum/Sam stuff to sell. For lists apply to David Ledbury c/o 8BIT enclosing an A4 envelope and 2 first class stamps. REF:Z

Spectrum +3 drive belts. £2.45 inc P&P from AJ Howard, 65, Altyre Way, BECKENHAM, Kent BR3 3ED REF:O

50 games from 50p each + various covertapes. SAE to S Swainson, 7, Upper Hill Rise, RICKMANSWORTH, Herts WD3 2NU REF:L

Spectrum games for sale from 50p each. Send SAE for list to: Pauline Fuller, 4, *Whitehouse Cottages*, Sot's Hole Bank, Holbeach St Matthews, SPALDING, Lincs PE12 8EJ REF:P

Spectrum Software; tapes and discs, games and serious. SAE for massive list to Alan, 18, West Street, Geddington, Northants NN14 1BD REF:K

SINCLAIR SPECTRUM - WANTED

Wanted for Spectrum Plus 3 - a word processor with print out facility with or without spell checker as well. Contact Geoff 0171 474 (E London) 2869. Leave information on answerphone with phone number or address REF:Q

Cassette lead for Spectrum +3 desperately wanted! Please write to: Nicholas Campbell, 24, Ballyminstragh Road, Killinchy, Newtownards, Co Down, N Ireland BT23 6RE REF:O

Wanted for Spectrum +3 Multiface3. Willing to pay a good price. Also a copy of Zulu Wars on tape or disc. Willing to buy or swap for any games I may have of interest. Please contact Peter Stevens, 41, Nelson Street, Rosyth, FIFE KY11 2JU. Phone: 01383 419075 REF:P

Wanted: Any back issues and/or the covertapes of *Sinclair User* and *Your Sinclair*. Write with prices required to Nicholas Campbell 24 Ballyminstragh Road, Killinchy, Newtownards, Co Down, N Ireland, BT23 6RE REF:O

Does anyone have a +D or Disciple

interface for sale? Oh, and I'd still like a Sinclair flat screen TV. Phone Eifion 01745 (Abergele) 332122 after 6pm. REF:L

WANTED FOR MY SPECTRUM. Old platform and ladder games. Also any second-hand SAM software. Write to: John Turner, 58, Burnside, PARBOLD, Lancs WN8 7PE REF:S

COMMODORE - FOR SALE

Commodore 64/128 games and books for sale. Also some other software and hardware. Please send A4 SAE for list to: Miss C Hurlock, 8c, Hamlet Court Rd, Westcliff on Sea, Essex SS0 7LX REF:P

C64 Software; 800 titles SAE for price list to Alan, 18, West Street, Geddington, Northants NN14 1BD REF:K

C64 bargain bin! Send me £1 and I'll send you a game. Games include Codemasters and others. Interested? Write to Denise, 48, Eastern Avenue, CHIPPENHAM, Wilts SN15 3LW REF:K

"FONTS FOR GEOS/1" - 21 original fonts for use with Geos. Most have multiple point sizes with pound (£) signs. Includes a graphic font to help design special dividers in your documents. 1541 disk. £3.99 including p & p in UK. Michael D Pearson, 31, Saxon Close, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire CV37 7DX REF:P

C64 games for sale from £1 including Codemasters titles and many more. Interested? Contact Denise, 48, Eastern Avenue, CHIPPENHAM, Wilts. SN15 3LW. Send SSAE for lists REF:K

COMMODORE - WANTED

Wanted! Vic20 Software/Hardware etc. Contact: Leon Bebbington, 348, Station Road, Winsford Cheshire CW7 3DG. Tel: 01606 861647. REF:T

WANTED: Trojan light pen, disk, and tape software for the Commodore 64. Also many items for sale and technical help given for free - just send an SAE or an international reply coupon. Write to Andrew Fisher, 2, Elfleda Road, CAMBRIDGE CB5 8LZ or call 01223 561433

COMMODORE - WANTED - continued

weekends only

REF:M

WANTED: COMMODORE FORMAT 40 (Jan 1994) in mint condition with/without covertape. Also Wanted - C64 cassettes in mint condition of: Jet Set Willy 1, Dictator by Dk'Tronics, Graham Souness International Soccer and Multimixx 5. Good prices paid. S Ross, 3, Deanbank Street, DUNDEE DD2 2EA REF:L

Wanted Printshop 64, new or second hand - must be complete. Manual for MPS801 and help with Speedscript. Contact M Surridge, 99, Canterbury Road, COLCHESTER, Essex CO2 7RY. Tel: 01206 792155 REF:O

WANTED! Commodore Format issues 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 37, 40, 41, and 47 - all in vgc with tapes please. Also wanted: any old Zzap 64s, Commodore Forces, Your Commodores, or Commodore Users. All vgc with tapes. Any reasonable offers considered. Call 01427 (Gainsborough) 610912. REF:O

Wanted: Commodore 64 contacts in Cheshire please. Tape or Disk. Leon 01606 861647. REF:T

COMMODORE - MISC

Commodore 64 Technical advice:- If you have a C64/128 technical problem write to me, Andrew Fisher, former technical consultant to Commodore Force and Commodore Format, at 2, Elfleda Road, CAMBRIDGE CB5 8LZ England. Enclose an SSAE or an International Reply Coupon for a fast reply. REF:Z

SIXTY-FOUR! Is an exciting new fanzine dedicated to Commodore 64 computers. It contains all sorts of C64-related material and even comes with a cover disk from issue 3 containing exclusive demos of upcoming games. Write, enclosing £1 and an A5 SAE for a sample issue, to L Bebbington, 348, Station Road, WINSFORD, Cheshire CW7 3DG REF:Z

AMSTRAD CPC - FOR SALE

CPC Software; 500 titles SAE for

price list to Alan, 18, West Street, Geddington, Northants NN14 1BD REF:K

Amstrad CPC Database Software "Mini-Office" on 3" disc complete with instructions. Plus Dr Logo & Help. CP/M Plus system utilities. SAE to Alan, 18, Walton Drive, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 4UZ REF:P

An unusual CPC464 (in Britain) with the Spanish keyboard layout £10 + p&p or possible free delivery available. Phone Brian Watson 01353 777006 REF:Z

Amstrad CPC464 games for sale. Send SAE for list to: 29, Curlew, Wilnecote, TAMWORTH, Staffs B77 5PL or phone 01827 260729 after 7pm REF:T

Amstrad Action issues 52-55, 57, 59-64, 67, 69-72, 74, 75, 77-79, 81, 82 (no covertapes). £10 the lot. Telephone: 0161 439 (Stockport) 7034 7-10pm REF:R

Amstrad Action covertapes 35-51 50p each + p&p. Phone Derek on 01745 (Denbigh, Clwyd) 730498. REF:N

CPC6128 keyboard (good working order) £30, green monitor £30, colour monitor £50, 464 (also 6128) sound synthesiser £30, Maplins 8-slot romboard + roms £30, external 3½" drive £30, 3" drive £10, AA mags and tapes for offers. Max, Mini-Office, Tasword, Golf, Chess, PD all on disks. Phone John: 01929 (WAREHAM, Dorset) 554109 REF:L

LOADS OF CPC ITEMS FOR SALE - Tapes, Discs, Magazines, Books. For list send a SSAE TO T.Davies, 8, Garden Suburbs, Trimsaran, Nr Kidwelly, Dyfed SA17 4AB REF:O

Amstrad Action covertapes 21-46 inclusive for offers. Amstrad CPC464 keyboard and CTM640 colour monitor for spares. Also massive collection of tape software to be included (for details send SAE) Only £50 the lot! Mr Peter Jones, Greystones, 27, Town Gate, Calverley, PUDSEY, West Yorkshire, LS28 5NW. Tel: 0113 (LEEDS) 2394011 REF:Q

Xenomorphs: new game by David Hall only £2. Also comes with previously unseen PD software. Send a 3" disc, SAE

AMSTRAD CPC - FOR SALE - continued

and cheque or postal order to:- David Hall, 280, Derbyshire Lane West, Stretford, MANCHESTER, M32 9LU. NEWS FLASH - mention 8BIT and save £1 (half price) REF:Q

For Sale: Amstrad Action 16-23, 25, 28, 30, 35, 37-39, 43, 48, 50-59, 71, 89, 91-95, 98-100. Amstrad Computer User Sep 86-Jul 89, Sep 89-Jun 90, Aug 90, Mar 92. Computing With The Amstrad Jun 87-Oct 87 + April 88. CPC Attack Jun and Sep 92. CPC Computing Dec 88. Many with cassettes. £1.50 each inc p&p. Discount for 5+. JW Gamble, 31, Cornmills Road, Soham, Cambs CB7 5AT. Ref:M

Amstrad CPC games for sale. Tapes from 25p, discs from £2. Please send A4 SAE for list to: Miss C Hurlock, 8c, Hamlet Court Rd, Westcliff on Sea, Essex SS0 7LX REF:P

Brunword Elite Mk3 ROM module £60, 30 3" discs £15, replacement internal 3" drive £20. Tel: 01502 (Lowestoft) 518773 and ask for Jonathan. REF:L

Replacement disc drive belts for CPC and PCW 3" drives (also Spectrum?). Flat type belts with full but simple fitting instructions. £2.45 including postage and packing. Mr AJ Howard, 65, Altyre Way, BECKENHAM, Kent BR3 3ED REF:O

FOR SALE: a CPC6128 computer with colour monitor, extra external 3" drive, tape recorder, joystick, some games and some serious discs, Mini-Office 11. Offers. Tel: 01642 617656 REF:O

Large list of 2nd hand CPC tape and disc Software at sensible prices. All originals with instructions. Send 1st class stamp and return label for lists. BA Watson, c/o 8BIT magazine. REF:T

LOADS OF CPC goodies: Tapes, Discs, Roms, Books, Magazines and Hardware. For list send A5 SSAE: Brympton Cottage, Brunswick Road, WORTHING, Sussex BN11 3NQ. REF:P

Amstrad Actions: 29-41 (Feb 88-Feb 89), 46 (Jul 89), also ACU for May 1990. £1 each incl p&p. BA Watson, c/o 8BIT

magazine.

REF:T

AMSTRAD CPC - WANTED

Wanted AMX mouse for use with 6128. Reasonable amount paid. Telephone: 0161 439 (Stockport) 7034 7-10pm REF:R

Games wanted for CPC, tape or disk please. Send your price list to Martin Bela, 11, Colwell Drive, Brookside, Alvaston, Derby DE24 0UP REF:N

DESPERATELY WANTED; an internal 3" drive for my 6128+ (5v). Also Amtix issue 1. Angela in Worthing: 01903 206739 REF:Z

Protext on ROM, and any other Protext series programs on ROM. Will respond to reasonable offers. Also Vidi wanted. Tel: 01502 (Lowestoft) 518773 and ask for Jonathan. REF:L

WANTED: Complete circuit board for 464 (Mk2 condensed version; IO/joystick ports on left side). Independent power supply (5v+12v output), for 6128 used without Amstrad monitor. Megamaths on tape or disc. Vgc daisywheels for Dyneer DW16. Write: Mr N Davies, Flat 1, 39, Broad Street, Newtown, Powys SY16 2BQ REF:N

WANTED: ACU for Nov '84 to Feb '85, Jun '86 to Oct '86, Sep '87 to Dec '87, April '90, Sep '90. Also Amstrad Action 1 and 2 and Amtix 1, 3 to 5, and 10 - 14. Also Pre-40 issues of WACCI, CPC User 1, any issues of CPC Power, CPC Now from 4 onwards, Rundschlag 1-8. Peter Curgenven, The Hollyar, Bay Road, Trevone Bay, Near Padstow, Cornwall PL28 8QZ. Tel: 01841 520875 REF:K

Wanted for the Amstrad CPC 6128: these adventures on disc - Hitch Hikers Guide to the Galaxy (Infocom), Ingrid's Back (Level 9), Also wanted, these games on disc - Meltdown (Alligator), Knight Games (English Software), Amstrad Action magazines issues 1-7 inclusive. The cover prices offered. Jo Wood, 38, Stonehill Drive, Rooley Moor, ROCHDALE, Lancs OL12 7JN. Telephone: 01706 861185 REF:P

WACCI 3-20, 22-31, 35 & 51, ACU

AMSTRAD CPC - WANTED

Jan-Aug '86 or before, Jul-Dec '87, all '88, May, Oct, Nov '90, Jun '92 onward. Disc drive DD1 or FD1. Service manuals. Christine Raisin, tel: 0115 (NOTTINGHAM) 9765163. REF:N

'ROMBO ROMBOX' wanted for original Amstrad CPC 6128. State the price wanted. Apply: Mr RE Hobday, 43, Cody Road, Clapham, BEDFORD, Beds. MK41 6ED REF:P

'DISC BASE' + a manual for CPC. £6 (incl p&p.) RE Hobday, 43, Cody Road, Clapham, BEDFORD, Beds MK41 6ED REF:P

CPC - MISCELLANEOUS

Help needed to repair a Multiface 2 which becomes hot in use and ceases to function. Please contact Matthew on 01684 (Tewkesbury) 274993. Cost to be discussed REF:O

WACCI. If you have a CPC then you need us. Send a 29p stamp to: WACCI, 7, Brunswood Green, Hawarden, Deeside, CLWYD CH5 3JA to see what you are missing! REF:T

KING ARTHUR'S DOMAIN is a disc PD Library for the CPC. We have games, utilities, music, clip art, a large selection of CP/M programs and lots more. For catalogue, send 3"/3½" disc + SSAE to: KAD, Brympton Cottage, Brunswick Road, WORTHING, Sussex BN11 3NQ. REF:Z

ARE YOU A FRUSTRATED AMSTRAD CPC USER seeking help and support? Then why not join the United Amstrad User Group for a bi-monthly magazine, PD material (small copy charge), concessions and support, all for £8 per annum. Send SSAE to Gordon Wooliscroft, 2, Wrenbeck Drive, Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 2BR for details. REF:L

Bonzo's Scrapyard number 12a now available. The newsletter for CPC tape to disc transfers via the Bonzo suite of programs. Price - a large SSAE plus an extra 1st class stamp. From: Bonzo's Scrapyard, 29, Chapter Road, Strood, ROCHESTER, Kent. ME2 3PX REF:T

GD.PD: The ultimate in PD software at only 25p per disc side (copy charge) for your Amstrad CPC. For the GD.PD list send an SSAE to: Dave Stitson, 6, Connaught Avenue, Mutley, PLYMOUTH, Devon PL4 7BX REF:L

AMSTRAD PCW - FOR SALE

Amstrad PCW8256/8512 parts for DIY repair: 3" drives, CPU boards, Power boards, Tubes, Keyboards, printers, etc. Also some books and software. Advice freely given. SAE please for lists and info. Ron King, 19, Stancliffe Road, BEDFORD, Beds MK41 9AN REF:S

Flipper 3 for Amstrad 8512 or expanded 8256 on 3" disc. Never been used. £15. Tel: 01776 (STRANRAER) 704363 REF:R

Quikmyth is an introduction to mythology. Buy this Locofile cross-referenced database and get Quikmyth 2 free. Quikmyth contains Greek myths. Your free upgrade will have Greek legends also. 3½" discs only. £7.50 includes p&p or send SAE for details. DJ Gaskin, 119, London Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4NP REF:Q

12 brain-twisting games from SPARK Software for the PCW including Coconut Shy and Fishing. Send cheque for £5 to Mr C McKenzie, 20, Macclesfield Road, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 1NR. Specify 3" or 3½" disc Ref:P

AMX Stop Press, Caxton Condor 1, Caxton Scratchpad+/Smartkey - £15 ea. Tas-Sign, Lord of the Rings game 1 - £10 ea. Synergy Sharemaster, MAP Initnon ledger system £20 ea. SCA Professional + interface - £45. Cut cable 9pin female to 25pin female - free. AEG Olympia FCC 1D2 interface 36pin to 20pin ribbon - £30. JR Cross, The Parciau, Clyro, Hay-on-Wye, HEREFORD HR3 5SG REF:P

Masters with manuals: LS/LM temp disc £5, 3" Tweak £8, CP/M Superboss £5, Matrix Locofont £6, Flipper v3.10 £15. Peripherals: Canon BS10sx sheetfeeder (unused) £30. Hardware Wanted: memory card for NC100 notepad. Sybil Fox 67, Alder Lodge, Stevenage Road, LONDON SW6 6NR. 0171 381 1445. Ref:L

AMSTRAD PCW - WANTED

WANTED: User Instruction manual for an Amstrad PCW 9512 with daisywheel printer. Eileen. 01621 (Maldon, Essex) 788273 REF:Y

8000+ magazines, especially April 1990, Sept 1990, and Nov 1990. Also an AMS30L 3" disc box. Phone Vic Edwards on 01268 (Canvey, Essex) 514142 Ref:T

Creative Technology TRACKBALL key mouse wanted for Microdesign on PCW. Must be trackball version. Details price, to Mike Elliston, 96, Sparrows Herne, BASILDON, Essex SS16 5EX Ref:L

Issue Dec '94 and 100 of PCW Plus, also Dec '86 of 8000 Plus to complete the South Essex PCW Clubs' reference library. Contact Mike Elliston on 01268 (Basildon) 522484 Ref:L

For Sale: AZ-330 Olympus Super zoom camera with an infra-red remote unit, filters, soft case. £175. Would consider part exchange for PCW hardware. Phone: Ted 01275 (Bristol) 340565 REF:O

Wanted: any help or information concerning PCW9256 - Programs, games, Locoscript 3, upgrade memory with chips, 3½" disks. Mr WA Warren, 25, Milton Avenue, ANDOVER, Hants SP10 3DP REF:P

WANTED FOR A PCW: 'Grammatik' or any other program that checks Grammar on a PCW. Contact Jim French on 01268 415255. 14, Wheatfield Way, BASILDON, Essex SS16 6SN REF:K

I would appreciate details of any items for sale or exchange related to PCW8512. Hardware, printers, software, peripherals, programs, discs, manuals, books, etc. Require especially any items related to Protext or Basic, and manuals for Microdesign, Masterfile 8000, Dbase II, Frank Bohan, 13, New Road, Elsenham, BISHOPS STORTFORD, Herts. CM22 6HA REF:O

WANTED: Rombo Vidi set-up for a PCW, complete with instructions. Must be in working order! Please send details of the price etc to: Mike Elliston, 96, Sparrows Herne BASILDON Essex SS16 5EX REF: L

PCW - MISCELLANEOUS

Any PCW users want to start a club in South London? Premises and equipment are available. Contact Mrs Sybil Fox 67, Alder Lodge, Stevenage Road, LONDON SW6 6NR. 0171 381 1445. REF:Z

Berkshire Amstrad PCW Users Club offers you FREE telephone support, FREE magazine/book loan, FREE machine loan, FREE newsletter. FREE access to bulletin boards etc. FREE Special offers - eg 3" discs only £10 per 10. SAE for details to Ed Harris, 121, Bullbrook Drive, BRACKNELL, Berks RG12 2QR REF:P

Europress cannot make Mini-Office Professional autoboot. Surely someone, who is cleverer than I, can? I have PCW9256 with 1.6M free memory, C/PM 1.15 of J15CPM3.EMT and 3½" A/B drives. Any assistance gratefully received. Keith Bull, Le Coié, 60, Hildaville Drive, WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA, Essex SS0 9RU. Tel: 01702 339894. PLEASE. REF:Z

Globe-trotting, or just interested? Contact CAPITAL COMPUTER CLUB, c/o Ray C Patersen (the Secretary), 21, Mapplebeck Street, Titahi Bay, Porirua, New Zealand. The Club now has members with Amstrads (all sorts), Amigas, Macs, Sanyos and PCs with DOS and CP/M. They subscribe to PCW Plus so are well up to date. New members are welcome at each monthly meeting. REF:Z

The Cornwall PCW Club meets on the second Saturday of each month (July and August excepted) in St Austell. All those interested in PCWs are most welcome to join us. Details from John Walker on 01752 (Plymouth) 706266 REF:P

TRACK is the name of the very useful free advertising feature section of SCOTWEST.pcw, the magazine of the PCW Club of the same name. For more details contact David Williams, 32/34, Carfin Street, New Stevenston, MOTHERWELL ML1 4JL Scotland REF:Z

MISCELLANEOUS SMALL ADVERTS

Did you know? The IEBA (Independent Eight Bit Association) is a group active in promoting the use of 8-bit computers.

MISCELLANEOUS SMALL ADVERTS - continued

The first edition of their **Directory of 8-bit Services** is now out and is free to members. Life Membership is £5. For further details send 2 1st class stamps to Brian Watson c/o 8BIT magazine.
REF:Z

Free to a good home. For a BBC: AMX art and Games Galore. SAE to S Swainson, 7, Upper Hill Rise, RICKMANSWORTH, Herts WD3 2NU
REF:L

FOR SALE: Citizen 120D+ dot matrix printer. Includes traction feeder and recent ribbon. £100ono. Tel: 0161 439 (Stockport) 7034 from 7pm-10pm weekdays or weekends.
REF:B1

MANUALS WANTED for Dragon 64, Texas TI99/4a, Toshiba H-10, Atari STFM. **GAMES WANTED** for TI99/4a, Toshiba H-10, Atari 65XE, ZX81, Spectrum and Atari STFM and 2600. Also wanted games on 5.25" disc for Amstrad PC1640. Lists to John, 78, Holtdale Avenue, LEEDS LS16 7SG
REF:K

WANTED (for any 8-bit computers): any information on music score-editing programs that support guitar tablature. It is important that the application must also support conventional music symbols and typesetting rules (as per a music magazine). Phone 01469 574248 (office hours); 94 Margaret Street, IMMINGHAM, South Humberside DN40 1JY

FOR SALE: Atari XL/XE games for sale. Send SAE for list to: 29, Curlew, Wilnecote, TAMWORTH, Staffs B77 5PL or phone 01827 260729 after 7pm
REF:T

WANTED: Any programs, information, user support clubs, etc for the Texas Instruments TI199. Please send to David Ledbury c/o 8BIT magazine.
REF:Z

FOR SALE: CPC464, col/monitor, games £35; col/monitor for 464 £25; Dragon32, games £20; Spectrums £15-£30; Sharp MZ700 £10; Sharp MZ80B + disc drive + printer, £30; Einstein, software, colour monitor £30; BBC model B + discdrive, £35; Atari8000XL, disc drive, tape etc £40; Oricl £20; Toshiba MSX £20. Contact Ed Harris at Berks PCW Users Club 01344 428938.
REF:P

WANTED: A manual for Mannesmann Tally 290 printer. Please telephone first to 01253 (BLACKPOOL) 762092
REF:Q

FOR SALE. Star LC100 Colour Printer. Virtually as new; almost unused other than self-tests. 1 black ribbon + 2 4-colour ribbons, 1 metre Centronics cable, manual, original packing. £115. The intended use with existing inkjet not practicable. Purchaser to arrange the transport or shipping. N Bannister, 86, King Edward Drive, GRAYS, Essex RM16 4AQ. (01375 374732)
REF:P

WANTED: Printer manuals for Epson FX-1000, Amstrad 3000, Dyneer Daisy DW16. Write (only) to Mr N Davies, Flat1, 39, Broad Street, Newtown, Powys SY16 2BQ
REF:N

Atari 800XE/XL games for sale. Please send SSAE for list to Tim Asson, 29, Curlew, Wilnecote, TAMWORTH, Staffs B77 5PL or phone 01827 (Tamworth) 260729 after 7pm
REF:T

LOADS OF GOODIES for your Spectrum, Apricot, Games console, PC: Tapes, Discs, Roms, Books, Magazines and Hardware. For list send A5 SSAE to: *Brympton Cottage*, Brunswick Road, WORTHING, Sussex BN11 3NQ.
REF:Z

APPLE IIE with loads of spares incl. service manuals (massive), and cards, discs, motherboard, etc. Please write to: Mr N Woodbridge at 30, Hospital Street, NANTWICH, Cheshire CW5 5RP or phone 01270 628979
REF:T

Atari 800XL. Mint, 2 disc drives, Datacorder, loads of discs, plus spare keyboard. £40. Mr N Woodbridge, 30, Hospital Street, NANTWICH, Cheshire CW5 5RP. 01270 628979
REF:T

WANTED: Does anyone know of an Italian file for a spelling checker or Italian spellcheck program? Write to Mr AJ Howard, 65, Altyre Way, BECKENHAM, Kent BR3 3ED (and 8BIT)
REF:O

CP/M SUPPORT: The Public Domain Software Library, Winscombe House, Beacon Road, CROWBOROUGH, Sussex. (Tel: 01892 663298) owns large volumes of CP/M software from all over the globe. Send

MISCELLANEOUS SMALL ADVERTS - continued

A5 SAE for their CP/M catalogue. REF:Z

TRADING POST, Victoria Road, SHIFNAL, Shropshire, TF11 8AF (Tel: 01952 462135) have a variety of unused 8-bit computers available and even complete ones for spares from £10 and hardware and software for all 8-bits computers. REF:Z

OJ SOFTWARE, 273, Mossy Lea Road, Wroughtington, Nr WIGAN, Lancs WN6 9RN for 8-bit software and 3" discs Tel: 01257 421915 REF:Z

WANTED: Bootup software for an Apricot computer. The machine was made in 1983, has a start-up test ROM but needs a 3½" CP/M boot to bring it back to life. Any data will be useful. Contact Roger Henson, 88, Falkner Street, Gloucester, Glos GL1 4SJ. Tel: 01452 303390. REF:R

LATE ENTRIES AND OMISSIONS:

None - they're all included this time.

NOTES FOR ADVERTISERS:

- 1) Please help readers by giving your town's name and county if you are only quoting a phone number eg: 01353 (Ely, Cambs) 777006. Show any time limits you would like respected and give a name which a contact can ask for.
- 2) Please mention 8BIT when responding to advertisements.
- 3) Advertisements for the next 8BIT must be received by 15th May 1996.
- 4) Advertisements of over 50 words may be cut.
- 5) No guns, animals, cars or PCs allowed.

WACCO SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Last year the company called WACCO relaunched Prottext, the word processor for the Amstrad PCW and CPC computers, as well as Arnor's other programs for the CPC. This has been very successful

and WACCO is now ready for its second major release.

Prottext Office will be reissued on 1st May 1996. It provides all versions of CPC and PCW Prottext with powerful database and small business functions.

An integral part of the program is a flexible Filer routine which enables Prottext text files to be sorted without the rigid restrictions of some dedicated databases. This module will work apart from Prottext as a stand-alone program.

Because the data files used are entered and stored as simple text, they can easily be transferred to other programs after sorting if required. Files are compatible with all CPCs and PCWs, including upwardly to the new PCW16, and can be read directly from PCW discs into the PCW16's address book. CPC owners can use a PCW as a 'middleman' to transfer to the PCW16 or use a cable connection.

In addition to the Filer, there are routines to enable Prottext to generate invoices, credit notes and statements easily. A typical use would be for recording the sales, credits, purchases and records of a business run from home.

The price is £19.99. Orders can be placed by post (with cheque payable to ComSoft) from: ComSoft, McIntosh Court, 10, Wellpark Court, GLASGOW G31 2HW or by telephone (with a credit card) on 0141 554 4735. Buyers should state the computer model and disc size required.

For a limited period there are 3 special price offers available:

For CPC or PCW users:

1) All on disc - Prottext with Prottext Office and the Proprint CPC or PCW print enhancement program from ComSoft, all for £50. The programs are £59.97 if bought separately.

For CPC users:

2) Prottext and Proprint on ROM, plus Office on disc, all for £55. (£68 if bought separately)

3) Prottext, Proprint, plus Office, all on disc for £45. (£50.97 separately)

SALVE AND VALETE

The world of 8-bit computing is very fluid and there have been many comings and goings since the last 8BIT. The second issue of Relics is just about ready for its second edition. It seemed rather unsure of its direction in issue 1. Spectrum software plus European 'X-rated' films? that sounds like two magazines to me.

I am always reluctant to get too excited about new publications, especially in advance of their first publication, as by and large they don't make it to issue 2, let alone 5. The editors may say it is because magazines like 8BIT don't give them the coverage and to an extent that is true. But quality will out and a good 'un will always make it. Another one off the lists at present is the **Amstrad User** CPC disc magazine from Ireland. However, I am looking forward to the new **Better Than Life**.

The biggest shock this month was that **Electric Boys Entertainment Software**, premier UK importers and distributors of **Commodore** software, are closing their doors and going part time until all debts and stock are cleared. Russ Michaels invested in the **Commodore Format** subscription list from **Future Publishing** recently and wrote to 8BIT and others with a view to doing a combined mailing. As the difficulties of my printing arrangements were in turmoil I couldn't commit to it, and I understand the IEBA was still getting its committee established so was unable to consider a major expenditure of funds. In brief, not one positive response came from Russ's mailshot.

He now feels that there is no place for a **Commodore**-supporting company in the UK. He has a number of C64/128 bargains to sell (including all disk games but two at £5 each, and modems with cables for just £20 until the end of April). His phone number for orders is 0181 372 9346 or you can use the Lentil BBS on 01734 662013.

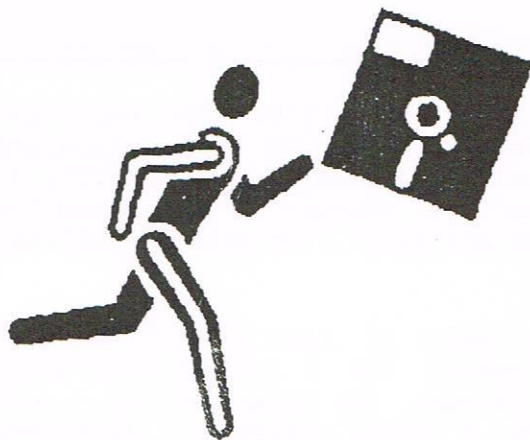
The second biggest shock was that John Packham, editor of the **United Amstrad User Group's** magazine **CPC User** has decided he would like to move on (leave) and the group is also concerned about its dropping membership. They still have over 150 so it's not terminal yet. I have always found they offer a good complementary service to **WACCI**, with a wide range of C/PM (and other) PD software and a well-stocked book library for hire. Phone **UAUG** Chairman Tony Baker (01329 234291) for further details.

I currently have a PCW16 on my desk for de-bugging and my guess would be that it will be ready for release by late June/early July. As a new version, rather than a direct linear development, of Amstrad's 'beginner's computer - works straight from the box' philosophy it is superb. There is really no software to learn, as such, as the operating system and its six modules (word processor, diary, address book, spreadsheet, calculator and filer manager) are very logical and intuitive, even for a dunderhead like me. I am actually overcoming my prejudice against mouse operation and find I use the 'hot keys' less and less.

Rather than a grudging "it will just about get you going but then you need to spend a fortune on proper versions of the software" situation, the '16 has largely all that a first-time computer user will need. The follow-ups are in development (I know about additional fonts, **MicroDesign**, **Comms Software**, **RoutePlanner** and **Protext** but probably not **LocoScript**) and I am sure other things will arrive too. C/PM or an emulator of it? I am working on trying to sort out the copyright situation.

It is not as fast as I had expected even if the Z80 is clocked four times as fast as the old PCWs, but it is quick enough on most functions and let us remember this is a pre-production version. Incidentally, there was a rush of 'this is what it's like' pieces in the press a couple of months back. I do wonder how many of them had actually used it for more than half an hour as many of the quoted facts and features in the reviews appear very different on mine. I can't bring myself to call it **Anne** - its **Amstrad** code name. It will always be just a '16 to me.

Brian Watson



Computer Disk Problems?

Don't Panic!

Call the Experts...

0892 835974

Dave's Disk Doctor Service

COMMODORE ACTION

PC Software presents the ultimate magazine for your Commodore 64/128.

Commodore Action contains thirty pages of news, reviews, features, interviews and more for all types of user, brightened up with photographs and pictures.

It comes with a free disk or tape (please specify) packed with top quality PD, demos and other software.

What's more, it costs just £2.50. To order, write with a cheque or PO (made payable to PC Software) to:

PC Software, 61 Inverary Road, Wroughton, Swindon SN4 9DL
Tel: (01793) 845017

"Let's Communicate"

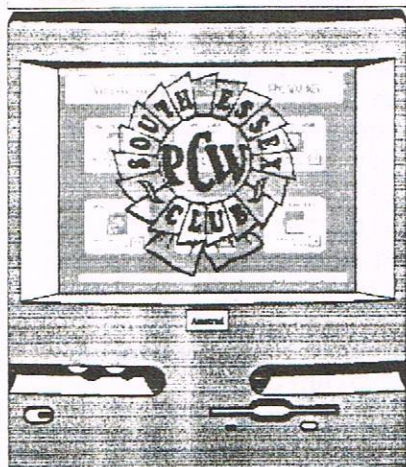
Subscribe to "The Disc Drive" and become part of the network of PCWers in contact not only with each other but with the market place.

The magazine is another way of retaining that essential communication link that will assist in providing detailed information to the PCW user.

THE DISC DRIVE

ISSUE 8

AUTUMN 95



The magazine dedicated to the Amstrad PCW

Apply to:-

David Lalieu
Secretary

SOUTH ESSEX
PCW CLUB

10, Sheridan
Avenue
Thundersley
Essex
SS7 1RD

Tel: (01702) 551618

Midas
Charity Ink

PCW In the PC
English
"Riviera"
[Ink & Software]

Please Pass-On this information Leaflet to a fellow Computer User - So possibly saving us further advertising expense and also keeping our prices as low as they are!
(Or Pass-On our Name and address) - Tel/FAX Number
Thank You

Te/FAX 01803 - 853144

"Kynance"
Nelson Road
Brixham
South Devon
TQ5 8BH

Reg as 1077
with
"Headway Charity"
Nottingham

Possibly the UK's
most Charitable Prices
assisting a national
Charity.

THE LEGAL STUFF: PLEASE NOTE: Unless explicitly stated otherwise, copyright on all articles in 8BIT or its predecessor 8BIT Mart, is held by Brian Watson and/or the relevant author, but may be freely reproduced elsewhere as long as BIT's name, full address, and phone number are credited as the source. I understand from a contributor that some of his work has been lifted wholesale from another publication and published elsewhere without acknowledgement.

THE 'DEJA VU' EFFECT: Having compiled the bulk of this issue from material submitted over the last few months, I found myself (at 2 o'clock this morning) completing the 'Recent Reading' section. Going through the magazines for a summary of their contents which might recommend them to a wider audience, I found myself reading this 8BIT's big story - Angela Cook's article on her time at Future Publishing - in a recent issue of WACCI. This is very embarrassing. Angela sent me the article on disc months ago and I have been feeling guilty about not publishing it ever since. She has obviously also submitted a version of it to WACCI and they got there first. Ideally I would not now run it but my printing deadline, already late by over a week, looms. So I have left it in, on the basis that only a relatively small percentage (though that still makes for quite a lot of people) of my readership take WACCI. So to Paul Derryhouse (the WACCI editor), its readership, Angela, and anyone else who feels I should have left it out, I'm sorry. You still don't know the worst of it - both Angela and WACCI's letters editor Philip DiRichleau are coming here to tea tomorrow.

DISCLAIMER: The contents of 8BIT are published on the basis that they are opinion or believed true at the time of publication. No liability can be accepted by Brian Watson or other contributors for any loss or damage, however caused. So mind how you go, I'm doing my best! I am careful to try to supply a realistic value to any hunch, belief, opinion, rumour or fact but clangers can still happen. So, "Sorry, please tell me if/when it happens so that I can set the record straight."

THE REAL WORLD: The pressures on my time of business, life and deadlines mean individual replies to letters cannot be guaranteed. I'm not (I hope) rude, I'm just a very busy person.

COMING SOON TO 8BIT: The next issue of 8BIT may well be a 'no display adverts special' to enable me to clear the backlog of worthy submissions and unfinished series. Also; The Series Which Will Remain Unfinished - And Why.

CONFIDENTIALITY: Details of 8BIT subscribers' will not be divulged without their express or strongly implied permission, and never for marketing purposes (especially to the person who has sent me three First Issues none of which, as far as I know, got finished or distributed).

HELP: The advertising pages are the best places for appeals for (or offers of) help, and I assume that the appropriate 'permission to publish' is implied with any letter received unless otherwise stated.,

LOW-COST REPAIRS: I would be very pleased to hear from anyone, and there may be more than one, who feels able to offer a 'small repairs' service for a reasonable price. With the supplies of some types of older computer equipment (especially peripherals) now dwindling, it is cheaper to replace the faulty item than have it repaired through a commercial business but all the working parts of the failed item are lost when it goes in the bin. There is a golden opportunity for a network of low-cost repairers to do some of the small jobs such as replacing drive belts, fitting replacement drives (keeping the old ones for spares) and mending small faults economically. To minimise postage costs, especially on larger items like monitors and keyboards, I am prepared to offer a free courier service throughout East Anglia and London north of the Thames. Do we have any more volunteers?